

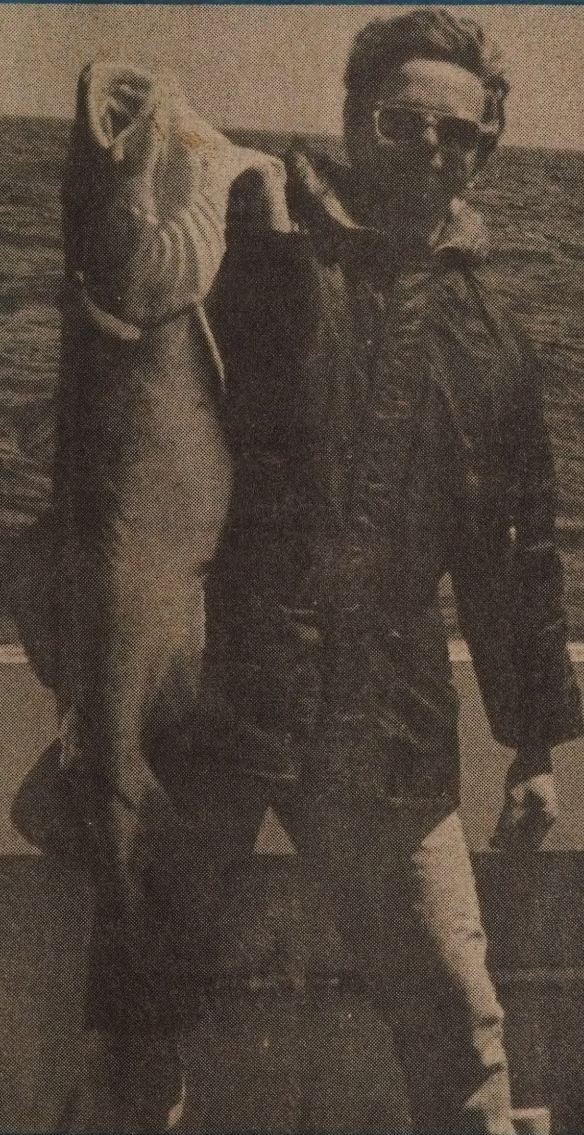


The Long Island 35¢ FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

MAY 20th, 1976, ISSUE No. 18

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOLUME 11, No. 18

MAY 20th, 1976

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About the Cover—

L.I.F. Advertising Manager Stu Miller hefts 34 pound cod taken during recent charter aboard Captain Paul Sunberg's "Montauk." This is L.I.F.'s (2 man cod), so-called because Stu's rod broke in front of the reel seat, requiring two men to work the rod and reel and get this specimen to gaff.

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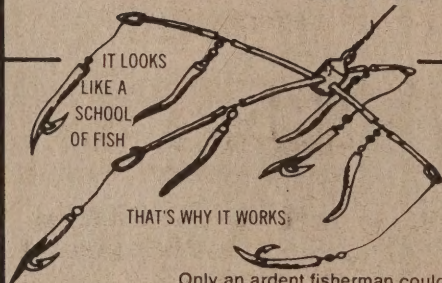
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Chum Lines

LITTERING SURFCASTERS

Being a resident of the town of Huntington, I often fish the Crab Meadow-Lilco area. Apparently, many other so-called fishermen fish this area also. To say the least, it is a heavily fished area. It is appalling to witness the activity of these so-called sportsmen. The littering, fishing tactics, and sportsmanship is enough to make any decent sportsman sick.

These people don't seem to realize that they are not in their backyards. They are on town property, private property and property owned by the Long Island Lighting Company. They are abusing a privilege that has been granted to them. The amount of trash, empty bait containers, and old fishing line along this stretch of Long Island is disgusting. Is it too much to ask these people to carry their garbage and discarded equipment back to the parking area?

Littering is a big problem, but the lack of common sense and courtesy is another tale to tell. More of my fishing trips have been ruined by other fishermen, than by bad weather conditions. People casting over your line and casting at you seems to take the fun out of your day. Either these anglers can't handle their equipment or they have no sense of safety. Hooks and lures are made to take fish, not fishermen.

Let's not forget that we are sport fishermen. We should and must obey state and federal conservation laws. What can be done about the hot-shot bass hounds with their stringers of shorts? It's not bad enough that they take illegal fish, but they haul them down the beach as if they had a stringer of 20 pounders. Do the serious and ecology minded sportsmen have to put up with this?

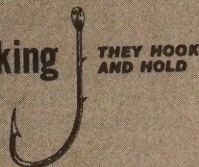
We should all become more ecology minded and a little more courteous. If we all play the game by the rules and practice some common sense, we will all enjoy the sport of fishing much more. Wayne R Jeno, Huntington, N.Y.

Abuse of access to fishing areas and facilities by a few anglers is a constant and re-curring problem. The few "bad apples" often spoil the good fishing for the rest of us.

We can make several suggestions although they may not be totally palatable to all. One, why don't the rest of us pick up and carry some of that trash with us as we leave the beach. The group that I fish with does it all the time. Two, report catches of short bass to the D.E.C. Dr. William. Muller.

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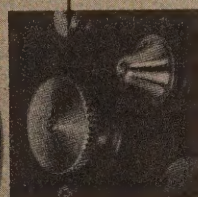
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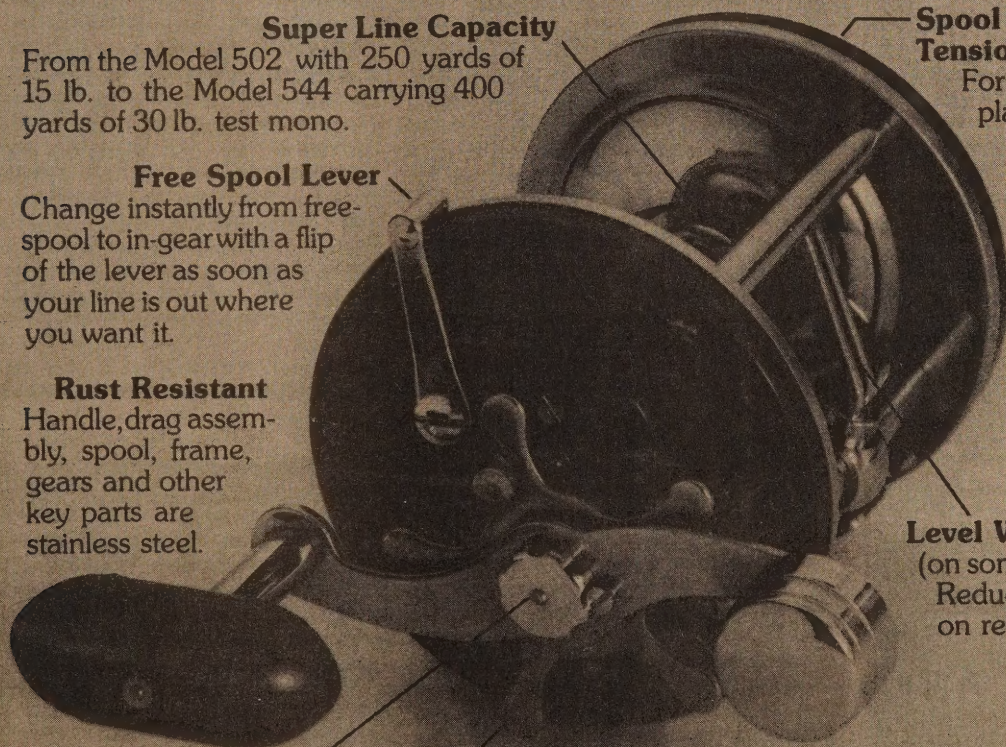
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CROSSING THE BAR *with Don Vetter*

Outboard For Big Game

Part Two



The larger (20 to 40 foot) fishing machine is proportionately higher in cost; for one thing the basic cost of the rig itself is much greater not to mention the more elaborate and expensive accessories such a rig entails. The basic 20 foot hull (\$5000) with a single 150 horsepower outboard (\$3000) and tandem axle trailer (\$1100) adds up to a hefty \$9100 sans accessories. The 24 footer with a pair of 115 h.p. outboards has a price tag of \$6000 for the hull and another \$5000 for the engines together with \$1800 for a suitable trailer for a whopping total of \$12,800 for the complete rig.

A really good compass (\$125) is the starting point in equipping one of the large offshore outboards for vibration will tend to make the cheaper ones spin when under way at high speed. A precision depth recorder will run \$800. Some of the more popular depth finders of this type combine the functions of flasher and recorder such as the Ross Dual Sounder and the Lowrance LFG 610. Many serious fishermen prefer the even more expensive straight line recorders such as those manufactured by Vexilar and Ross which are priced from \$700 to \$2000.

The radiotelephone holds a high position on the offshore fishermen's list of priorities and as in the case of the

smaller craft the serious angler will probably want to carry both VHF-FM (\$400 to \$500) for safety considerations and ship to shore communication, and CB (\$225) for casual chatting with fellow fishermen. The more complex top of the line sets preferred for the larger craft account for the higher prices.

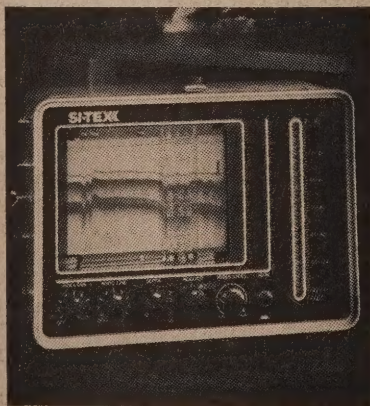
Canvas ranks high on the list of requirements with a Bimini Top (\$180) the choice of many. These tops are of the collapsible type and constructed with frames of aluminum tubing. Full canvas consists of a spary hook (\$280) that covers the area from the stem to a point about one third of the distance abaft the bow, with a clear plastic connector (\$110) which joins spray hood to Bimini Top. The addition of side curtains (\$45) creates a completely enclosed boat, dry and comfortable in any weather and under all running conditions.

Bow angle under a variety of running conditions and load factors is extremely important offshore; power trim (\$250 single engine, \$500 twin) may not be enough, remote control trim tabs give positive control of the hull attitude at various running speeds and sea conditions. The night fisherman will want indirect interior illumination and under the gunwale lights (\$75) are preferred over those mounted on the console sides (\$50).

There are many accessories which might seem a bit on the exotic side to the uninitiated, so we will refer to their addition as "customizing" here though many serious big game fishermen would consider them essential. We start the list with outriggers (\$80 to \$350) for extending trolling lines away from the boat. A fully equipped fighting chair (\$450 to \$900) should be mounted in the bow rather than the stern cockpit in these craft, as it is handier here when playing large fish. A built in tackle box under the seat at the forward of the console could run you another \$200 and vertical rod holders to provide stowage for six rods on each side of the console can set you back another \$80. A catch all tray on the after end of the console (\$20 to \$40) can come in handy, as it provides storage for lures and other items of tackle in continuous use.

When you add it all up, you can easily see how we arrived at those figures at the outset of the article; equipping the complete offshore fisherman can really run into money. The result is a craft of standing toe to toe with the big boys in pursuit of the largest saltwater gamefish that swim. If you think your fully equipped outboard sportfisherman still leaves something to be desired, you can always add a tuna tower with remote controls for about \$4500.

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CONSERVATION COMMENTS *by Al Ristori*

Anglers in the New York/New Jersey area who enjoyed good school tuna fishing last year may not feel that the bluefin tuna is in trouble, but the best scientific information indicates that is the case. The tagging studies conducted by Frank Mather of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, proved several years ago that over-fishing of every year class since the early sixties by purse seiners had left us with only a crop of very old giant tuna.

It took a long time for Mather to get the attention of both the scientific and governmental communities, but he finally succeeded in doing so and the weight of the National Marine Fisheries Service swung to his position. Two years ago, NMFS was able to convince the seiners to lay off year old fish (10 lb. class). Last year, the international body controlling tuna fishing in the Atlantic, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), agreed "to take necessary measures to limit the fishing mortality of bluefin tuna to recent levels for a period of one year." At the most recent meeting, these regulations were extended for two years.

The basic problem is that the almost complete elimination of each year class since the early sixties has left the remnants of the giant tuna population as the basic spawning stock. Each year these fish grow closer to the point of natural mortality (aside from what is caught) and if something hadn't been done, it is quite likely that the spawning stock would have died out before the species could be safeguarded.

Fortunately, as is the case with most species of fish, even a small number of spawners can create a large year class if conditions are perfect. Nature apparently produced such circumstances in 1973 and we now have a year class that can produce excellent tuna fishing well into the future, if properly shepherded. Though NMFS observers kept the purse seiners off the year old fish in 1974, many sportsmen took advantage of the situation to "load up" on the 10 pound fish. Much of this was simply due to ignorance of the situation. Last year, strict regulations were imposed by NMFS under the ICCAT authority. The purse seine catch was restricted and individual anglers were limited to 4 tuna per day between 14 and 115 pounds. An allowance was made for that quota to include one fish under and over those limits

The regulations didn't go into effect until mid-July, by which time the purse seiners had already exceeded their quota substantially. A quota of 2250 giants was also set and this resulted in a closure of the season by mid-September, before local anglers had much of a chance at the giants. Based on last year's experience and the comments provided at many regional hearings, a number of changes were made for this season.

The 1976 regulations retain the 4 fish per angler limit, but attempts to reduce the overall catch of small tuna by limiting the purse seine catch to 1000 short tons. The purse seine catch of giant tuna is limited to 180 short tons, while all other gear (rod and reel, harpoons, handlines) is limited to 2000 fish over 300 pounds. Last year, the giant tuna quota was filled north of Cape Cod before anglers in the metropolitan area had much of a shot at them. This year, 150 fish will be available to anglers fishing west and south of Gay Head, Massachusetts. Unless there is exceptional fishing at Montauk, Block Island or the Rhode Island coast, this should make for a full season in the metropolitan area.

Another regulation that will help is the restriction of 1 giant tuna per boat through August 13. Last year, there was excellent giant tuna fishing on Stellwagen Bank (Mass. Bay) from mid-July to mid-August. A large portion of the quota was filled at that time, though the fish were selling for as little as 5-7 cents a pound. There is a very thin domestic market for giant tuna (mostly for people of Japanese descent) and only a few can be absorbed each day without severely depressing the price. Japanese buyers don't want the tuna until they become fat and oily after a summer of heavy feeding, and therefore don't begin buying them before mid-August. At that point, the fish won't be wasted and the limit will be raised to three giants per boat.

What does all this mean? Are the sacrifices we're being asked to make worthwhile? Without doubt, they are! Nature provided us with the material with which to save a great fishery by supplying an exceptional year class in 1973. Because the seiners layed off the year old fish in 1974, metropolitan area anglers enjoyed fine fishing for school tuna in the 20 to 30 pound class last year. This year, we should see large catches of 40 pounders. Yet, these fish are still not

sexually mature. It takes about 5 years before the bluefin spawns and, in the case of the large 1973 year class, that means 1978. In order to provide for long-term recovery of the stocks, we must reduce mortality on that year class and continue to depend on giant fish as spawning in the meantime.

It's quite true that the problem was caused by the greed of the purse seine fleet, and I, too, would like to see their fishing completely suspended. However, in the real world, it's often necessary for officials to make some "trade offs" in order to develop any sort of problem. Such is the case with the tuna regulations. They could be better, but they're our best hope at the present for preserving this great resource. Bill Gordon, the regional director in charge of the tuna program has done his level best to accommodate all viewpoints and certainly has the best interests of the fishery in mind.

Sportsmen can do their part by observing the regulations; tagging most tuna, and cooperating with NMFS surveys. The government can only set up programs that may preserve a continuing bluefin population for the future—it is up to all those who honor that greatest of gamefish to do their parts to see that the programs work!

A recent decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court bodes ill for fish that are trapped in the warm water discharges of power plants when surrounding water temperatures drop. As long as the fish stay in the warm water they can survive the winter. However, if the plant shuts down, the sudden temperature drop creates a massive fish kill. This is what occurred at the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station at Forked River, N.J. in 1972. A Superior Court judge fined Jersey Central Power and Light \$6,935 for the kill of about 500,000 fish (mostly bunkers). The Supreme Court overturned this ruling by contending that the company can't be held liable by the state for damages incidental to its operations as long as it is operating according to its federal license provisions. Unless an appeal to federal courts bring an reversal, it will be necessary to either effect a change in AEC regulations or get legislation through Congress in order to save the fish which are "fooled" by the warm water discharges and never migrate until it's too late.

Whiting Evans

The Casting Gourmet

More About Fish Salads; Salmon Steaks with Apple Puff Topping

My apologies to those of my readers who missed "The Casting Gourmet" in the last issue of the Long Island Fisherman. It so happened that I was in the land of the Sun—Florida, for nine days. And what a nine days, it was! While visiting my brother in Pompano Beach, I spent a couple of days at Sebastian Inlet—about 120 miles north of Pompano Beach. There I caught my first channel bass, not a big one only 9 pounds, but you gotta start somewhere. Sebastian Inlet is one of the fishiest spots you can possibly imagine. The Inlet teems with piscatorial life—hordes of mullet constantly pass by the long breakwater which juts out into the Atlantic. Those equipped with casting nets manage to collect all the live bait they need and there's nothing in the whole wide world better as bait for almost any game fish than a live fingerling mullet! Those who had them got these channel bass (they call them "red fish") on every cast.

Then, I also had time to fish from the pier (a very long one) at Lake Worth. It so happens that Lake Worth is the nearest to the Gulf Stream and to a monstrous "hole" in the ocean than any other spot on Florida's coast. I could continue on about the fishing there ad infinitum and I intend to write an article on the fantastic fishing to be had from this pier. Of course, there are many schools of mullet but the most prevailing bait is a kind of smelt and a species of herring. Around the end of the pier, for example, all you have to do to get a live bait is to drop a line on which you have secured a small triple hook into the water and JERK. You'll come up with a six inch bait fish almost every time. You then transfer this baitfish onto a single hook (through the nose is best), cast it out on a fish-finder rig weighted with 3 or 4 ounces of lead and let it lay. Soon, you could come up with a 25 pound cobia, a 30 pound bonita, a big barracuda, a king mackerel or any of the other fighting predators which abound there. The excitement generated at the end of that pier when the sea erupts in gigantic white splashes is contagious to say the very least.

Then, when I returned home I thought that perhaps the stripers would be waiting for me in the surf. Optimist that I am, I went over to the beach on rainy Saturday morning and tried my luck. Nodding—not even a crab bothered my



worms. Better luck next time, I hope.

More About Fish Salads

When I went over my accumulated mail I found a lovely note from a Mrs. Joan Philip who wrote me as follows: "I always read my husband's Long Island Fisherman and always look for the recipes which are very good (thank you Joan!). I just saw your recipe for flounder salad and thought you might be interested to know that you get the most delicious salad out of stripers and mako sharks. Use the same ingredients except that the real touch off is when you melt a little sugar with some water and mix it in with the fish first."

"I get a lot of compliments on it. Also try melting a cube of butter, adding some onion salt and paprika in a frying pan and when it's real hot, put in the fish and fry until both sides are lightly browned. Just a few minutes on each side is enough. They're delicious. I just thought you might be interested." (I am and "thank you" again, Joan.)

Salmon Steaks With Apple Puff Topping

The following recipe was gleaned from a newspaper some time ago. Reads deliciously to me.

When these broiled salmon steaks are set down on the table, they are wearing a

tender Apple Puff Topping—that looks like captured foam, brown glazed. The makin's for same consist of zesty canned apple sauce frothed with mayonnaise, egg, lemon juice and rind. Under the broiler the topping puffs and browns. When you eat the steaks, the going is delectable—the lovely salmon flavor of the fish given a bright edge with its lemony apple topping.

To climax it all, a hot sauce is also served with the salmon. This likewise includes canned apple sauce, mayonnaise and lemon but with the added zing of cayenne and horseradish.

Now, while Apple Topping and Hot Sauce are used here on the salmon, they'd also be delicious on any broiled fish, swordfish steaks for example, or fillets of flounder, cod, haddock, or sole. Try them, but first of all, do enjoy salmon steaks dressed up in this delicious way.

6 salmon steaks fresh or frozen Salad oil

- ½ cup of mayonnaise
- ½ cup canned apple sauce
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 tspn. grated lemon rind
- ½ tspn. salt
- 1 egg, separated
- Paprika

(Continued on page 54.)

THE FISHERMAN'S QUIZ

BY FRED
GUARDINEER

1. WHAT DANGEROUS CHARACTERISTIC DO PIKE, SHARKS AND BLUEFISH HAVE IN COMMON ?

ANSWERS AT BOTTOM OF PAGE.



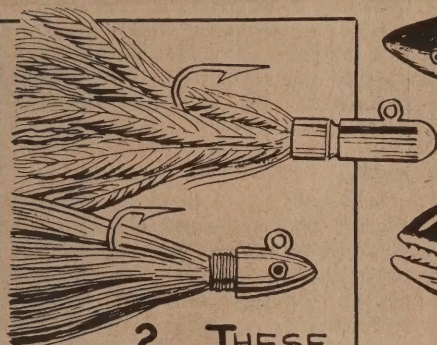
PIKE



SHARK



BLUEFISH

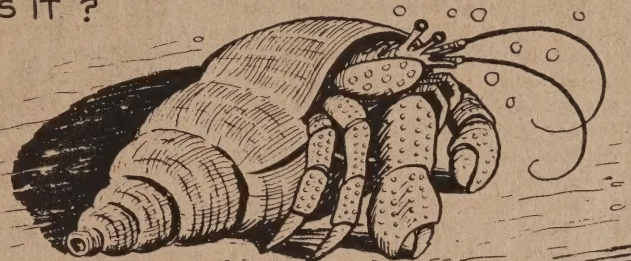


2. THESE POPULAR LURES ARE :

- ☐ SQUIDS ☐ JIGS
☐ DARTS ☐ FLIES

A KILLER WHALE CAN DIVE DEEP FOR ITS MEAL...

4. THIS CRAB IS EXCELLENT BAIT FOR SALTWATER FISH. WHAT KIND IS IT ?

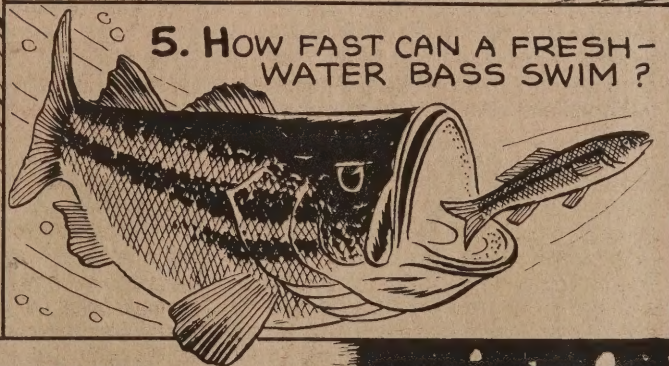


3. ONE HOUR IS THE LONGEST A MARINE ANIMAL CAN HOLD ITS BREATH

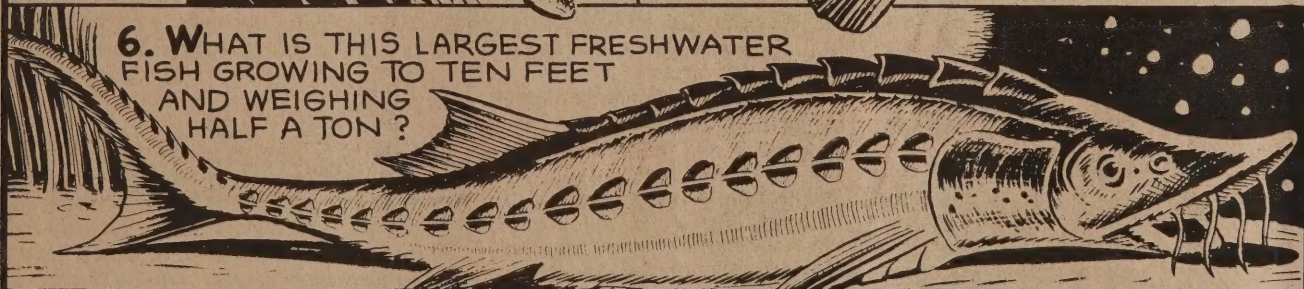
- TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



5. HOW FAST CAN A FRESH-WATER BASS SWIM ?



6. WHAT IS THIS LARGEST FRESHWATER FISH GROWING TO TEN FEET AND WEIGHING HALF A TON ?



1 - ALL THREE OF THESE FISH WILL DELIBERATELY TRY TO BITE YOU WHILE LYING IN YOUR BOAT. 2 - JIGS. 3 - FALSE - SPERM WHALES HAVE BEEN OBSERVED TO REMAIN SUBMERGED FOR 90 MINUTES. 4 - A HERMIT CRAB. 5 - TOP SPEED IS 12 MPH BUT ONLY IN SHORT BURSTS. 6 - THE STURGEON.

ASK THE CAPTAIN

OPINIONS & ANSWERS

by Capt. Ronnie Lepper

Question: Ed Anderson, Bronx, N.Y.

After reading many books and articles on striped bass fishing, I still find it hard to find out where to fish in the spring when these fish start to move. Also what month is the best to start in my area? My boat is moored in Jamaica Bay.

Answer:

When writing a book or an article, it would be a tough job to include the most productive areas along the entire coast. When you let me know the area you fish in, it makes the job a lot easier. You couldn't be better located for spring bass fishing in this area. In late April you will usually find schools of small fish along the N.J. coast, the area around Monmouth Beach and the N.J. Highlands are good producers, as long as the water temperature is right (over 50 degrees). Mid May brings these smaller fish (5 to 15 pounds) easterly, and the Lido Beach area begins to have fair fishing. At the same time the big fish start to enter our area. I have had some very respectable catches on 20 to 40 pound fish in that Monmouth Highland area. Late May finds plenty of school fish in Jamaica Bay and Reynolds Channel. Late May and early June find fish as far East as the Cape with a better mixture of big fish down in the Rockaway Long Beach area and L.I. South Shore and Northern N.J.

Question: John Dillon, East Rockaway, New York

I do a lot of surf fishing down at Malibu and Point Lookout Beaches. What do you say are the best lures and baits for that area?

Answer:

The beach along the East End, between the Lido Hotel and Point Lookout has always been a very productive area for all types of fish, especially bass, blues and weaks. Most of the surf fishermen that frequent that area start the season (late April, early May) with sandworms or sea clams and some very respectable catches are made. Between June and November, the bait fishermen stick to bunker chunks and live eels. This system has produced some very impressive catches in the last 4 or 5 years, and fish in the 40 to 50 lb. class are not uncommon. As far as artificials are concerned, poppers, underwater and top water swimmers collect their share, keeping to the small and mid-size lures, as this pocket holds lots of small bait. Whatever you do, do not leave out a selection of bucktails up to 1½ ounces as they produce beautifully on all three types of fish, along with fluke or anything else that happens to see it. (Don't forget to use pork rind on all bucktails.)

Question: John Dillon, E. Rockaway

Could you tell me of a surf fishing club with members of 14 year old fishermen? I am 14 and am having a lot of trouble finding one. I have good equipment and I enjoy night fishing.

Answer:

Unfortunately, I have tried without success to locate a surf club that accepts young men in your age bracket, and I have exhausted all paths. I find only sons of club members are eligible for junior memberships in some clubs. I have heard the pro's and con's on both sides and these are valid arguments both ways. Let me say this; you can fish without belonging to a club and a young man with your enthusiasm should have no trouble making friends along the beach. You may as an alternative, find some fellows (or girls) in or close to your age bracket and start your own club. Good luck, and let me know whether or not you succeed.

Question: Mr. John Samothrakis, Queens Village, N.Y.

First I would like to say I am very happy to be a subscriber of The Long Island Fisherman. I am happy with all my issues. My question is this...One night two friends and I went fishing at Jones Beach. We were using sandworms for bait. We were about 50 feet apart. One of my friends baited and casted. He came down to talk to me. He was with me for about 5 minutes when he went back to his pole. His pole was gone. There was a drag mark going into the water and there was nobody around who could have took it. He had about 200 feet of line. Could a striped bass do this??? One fisherman we talked to said it might have been a sea turtle. Could you please tell me what you think it was. Thank you.

Answer:

First of all, I doubt very much if a sea turtle was the culprit who relieved your friend of his rod and reel. Your story is not an uncommon one. A striped bass can and will drag an unattended rod and reel into the drink. It happens quite frequently, and they are very fond of sandworms. A few seasons ago, a very good friend of mine was trolling off Gilgo Beach when he hooked up with a good fish. After gaffing the fish, a 30 pound bass, he noticed that his bunker spoon was not in the fish's mouth but tangled in a ball of mono. After retrieving a



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couple of hundred yards of mono, he came to a complete surf spinning outfit. After relating the story to the local tackle shop, he forgot the entire incident. The tackle dealer called Frank Keating and Frank printed the story in the L.I. Press. Within the week, the dealer received a call from the owner who described the outfit perfectly. I happened to be there when this lucky angler came to pick up his rod. He told me that he had been fishing at night with live eels in the Jones Beach area, quite a few big fish had been caught already. He left his rod unattended while he took care of a personal need, alas, goodbye rod. This man was not a novice fisherman and had caught many big fish the same way. A small consolation for your friend is that it can happen to anyone. If this happened during the Spring or Fall, I would say that old roccus may have been the perpetrator. If it happened during the summer with the warm water around, there was a very good chance that the thief was a shark or a ray, as they frequent those inshore waters at night.

Question: Gary Mass, Far Rockaway, N.Y.

I lived in Rockaway for the past 21 years and I recently became interested in surf fishing for striped bass and bluefish. I have good tackle, a good supply of lures and know how to use them. The only problem is getting the fish to realize this. My success has been very limited, and I'm hoping that you may be able to tell me where to fish along the Rockaways, as I may be fishing in all the wrong areas. I've spent most of my time from beach 9th Street to beach 20th Street, as I was told by other fishermen that this was the best area.

Answer:

The areas you mentioned may be the best for calm water or for fluke but it is surely not the best area for bass and blues. The area to your west is much more productive area. The big stones between the 60's and the 80's are very "hot", especially in June. 100th Street to 125th Street is also a very good area. Riis Park and the Fort have always been steady producers and still hold plenty of fish. There is just one point I would like to stress and I stress it strongly. Be careful as there have been many unfortunate incidents in the Rockaway surf area, with mugging and robbing surf fisherman at the top of the list. I would not fish the area at night nor would I fish it alone during the day. Five minutes away you have Atlantic Beach which produces just as well without the added attraction of being mugged. All the stones east of Acapulco are productive. I do not like to convey these distasteful experiences but they do happen and I would not want to feel responsible for sending you there.



Tackle Box Talk

with Old Pal & Jerry McKinnis

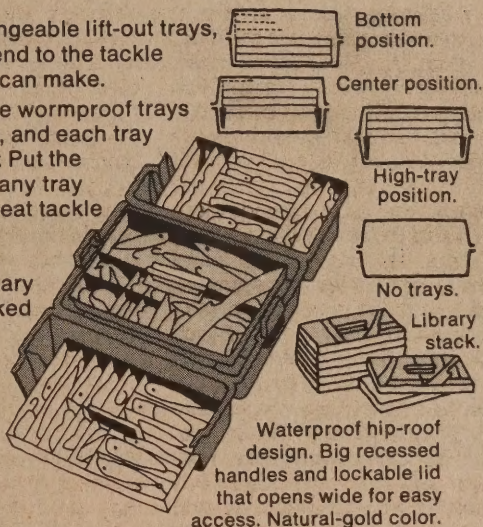
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THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

Advanced Weakfishing Part Five

This week we'll wind up this series on weakfishing with a discussion on chumming techniques, live-lining and a few general tips and tricks that can help to increase your catch.

Chumming for weakfish can be a very effective fishing technique when properly done, but as a rule it has one major drawback: expense. If your only goal is to simply catch a mess of weakfish, it may be difficult to justify the addition of five or ten dollars to the tab for a fishing trip just so you can use a technique that doesn't hold any guarantee of out-producing other techniques such as casting artificials. But chumming has the advantage of also attracting the other popular predators (bass, blues and fluke) to your boat, and it is probably the most productive technique for taking weakfish during the summer doldrums after the initial spring run is over. The two most effective types of chum for weakfish are sand shrimp and clam bellies.

The art of "shrimping" for weakfish was very popular among fishermen in the 1920's and '30's when weakfishing was in its hey-day. I'm told by the old-timers that when it only cost a dime to get into the movies and only a lucky few had jobs during the "Big D," live grass shrimp was being purchased eagerly by fishermen for the unholy price of fifty-cents a quart. Stories of boats tied transom to transom while chumming for weakfish are true enough, but the reasons were more of economics than any secret chumming technique. At a half-a-buck a quart, and four or five quarts necessary just to fish a single tide, it only made sense to divide the cost and advantages of the expensive grass shrimp among as many anglers as possible.

I don't know of any bait outlets that handle live grass shrimp these days, but many of the local bait and tackle shops on the south shore carry them frozen, which I'm told is almost as effective. Let the frozen shrimp thaw out slowly in a bucket or in their containers - don't put them in water to speed up the process, as the shrimp will become soft and mushy. But make certain that the shrimp have completely thawed before using as chum or the small bits of ice will cause them to float, making the chum slick ineffective. Pick out the largest of the shrimp and place to one side for bait.

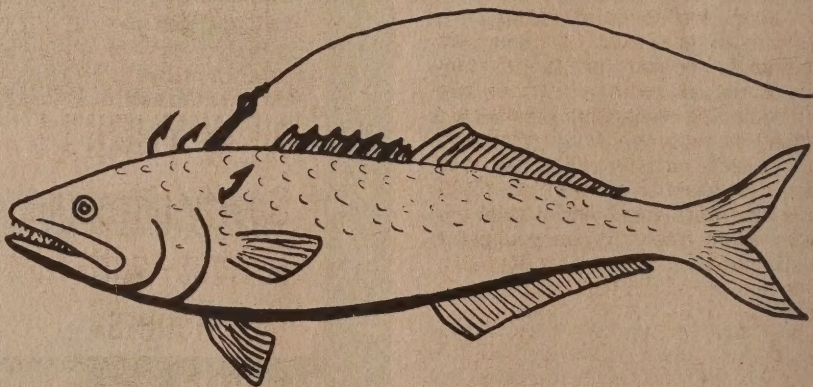
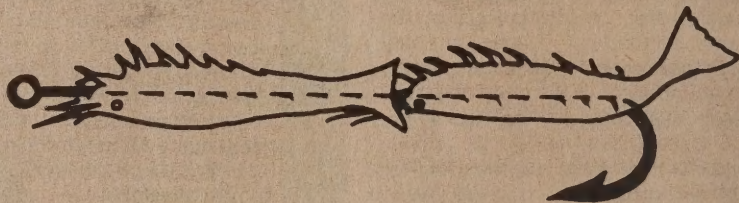
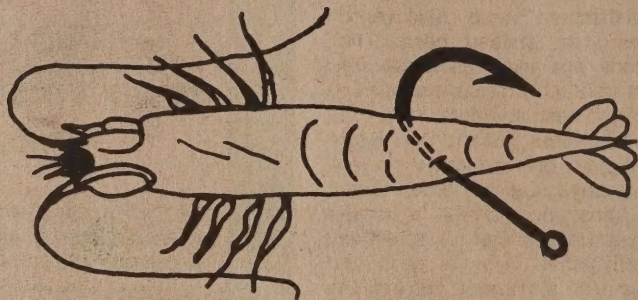
Choice of a good location to chum at is the first order of business. Some of the best areas to try anchoring at are just

upcurrent at the head of a deep hole, deep drop-offs where two channels cross, at the mouths of feeder outlets or drains, and at the change-of-depth slopes along the banks of the bays or marsh islands. A few of the popular local areas that have proven productive for shrimping are the deep holes off Heckscher State Park, the East/West Cut in back of the Amityville Channel, off the Gold Course in back of Merrick Bay, the entrance to Zach's Bay, Swift Creek, Macy's Channel in Woodmere Bay and just about any of the deep holes along the length of the State Channel, particularly those in back of Gilgo and Tobay.

The chumming technique itself is simple. Take a small handful of about a dozen shrimp and drop them in the water next to the boat and watch them move into the current until they are out of

sight, then repeat with another handful. When you get the first hit from a weakfish, lighten up the chum to about six or eight at a clip so you can draw the school of fish close to the boat. As with all chumming, make sure you **continue to chum**, even while playing a fish, so that you don't create a wide gap in the slick and lose the fish.

Rigging up is simple. Just tie the hook directly to the line, without a leader or any hardware that would tend to weigh down the bait and cause it to sink below the level of the chum slick. Use a light wire hook like the Mustad Viking or Beak Style with baitholder in sizes from number 4 up to 1/0, no longer. If the shrimp are large, put one on the hook by hooking the shrimp through the tail. Small shrimp can be used two at a time. The first shrimp is threaded onto the shank of the hook and the second is



hooked onto the bend of the hook below it. The bait is dropped into the water, and line is fed out so that it drifts at the same speed and level as those in the chum slick. If the current is particularly strong, it may be necessary to add a small split shot to the line a foot or two above the hook.

Clam chumming is another effective means of taking weaks, as many surprised fishermen have discovered while shooting for striped bass. The same methods are used as those for bass, discussed at length in my series on clam chumming last summer in L.I.F. Volume 10, numbers 29 and 30. Best areas are the many bridges spanning the south shore bays and in the State Channel. Almost exclusively a night fishing technique and rarely effective during the day time.

Live-lining is an extremely productive method for taking the large "tide-runners" of eight to twelve or more pounds, particularly in late summer when they are found in the south shore inlets in abundance. Other good areas to try live-lining at are the offshore bars outside the mouths of inlets and in deep holes and channels where large weakfish may be holed up.

Best baits to live-line are snappers, eels, small bunker and squid, not necessarily in that order. Live snappers are fished by hooking them just in front of the dorsal fin with a number two treble hook. Try using snappers that are half-dead so they appear sluggish and swim "queer" in the water so they attract the weakfish's attention. Drift around likely formations and just let the snapper swim freely. When you get a pick-up, free-spool line to give the fish a chance to swallow the bait before trying to set the hook. Small bunker and herring are fished with the same method. Live eels of the "shoestring" size are effective at night, but should be fished close to the bottom so weight must be added to the rig. Hook the eel through the lips with a long-shanked hook. Live squid are probably the best bait of all to live-line, but unfortunately it isn't that often you are lucky enough to catch a squid for bait and you can't buy them anywhere that I know of. If you do luck out and catch one, rig it on a 1/0 short shank hook placed near the point of the mantle where you won't hurt any vital organs or impede the squid's swimming ability. **Don't** try to cast a live squid - the shock of hitting the water will usually kill it. Just lower it over the side and let the squid swim away from the boat naturally.

Landing a weakfish definitely requires the aid of a large landing net. Just place the net in the water in front of the fish and lead him into it head-first with your rod. If you want to release a fish, just dispense with the net and reach down
(Continued on page 54.)

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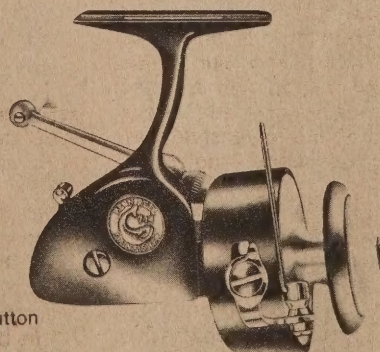


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Locating Striped Bass

Part Two

by Leonard S. Baum

Another point worth mentioning is that our diary won't list and doesn't pretend to cover all or even most of the areas that will produce bass in the New Jersey, New York and Connecticut areas. It will spotlight those areas that seem to produce the most fish, most of the time. You can be sure that there are many unnamed locations that will produce, sometimes an awful lot of fish, depending on the weather and bait conditions and whose doing the fishing. Finally, since our emphasis was on lunkers we did not make complete entries as to all spots yielding schoolies.

April— This is schoolie time. Few lunkers will show anywhere this month. The entire Jersey Coast surf and bay produce. Saside Park, Island Beach, Berkley, Barnegat Bay, Great Bay, Atlantic City, Point Pleasant and the Mullica and Navesink Rivers often appear in print but there are many other potential hot spots. By the third week of April fish in the high teens become more common, and by the last week schoolies are in solid all the way up to Sandy Hook where boatmen drift and bottom fish with worms. Surfmen should stick to worms fished on the bottom, using doodle bug or fishfinder type rigs. Bucktails and small Rebel, Redfin and rapala type plugs can be murder in the bays. New Yorkers should look for early run bass at Great Kills, Staten Island on bottom fished worms. Blitzes often occur after the third week of April. Concentrate on Great Kills and the area between Fort Wadsworth to Tottenville. On Long Island, Little Neck Bay is the perennial early season favorite with worms the preferred bait. Nighttime and high water are best. West Harbor at Bayville is another hot spot, especially during warmish, windless eves, with those small minnow type lures, small tins, bucktails and Alou elvers taking down the honors. By the third week of April the south shore surf at Point Lookout, Cedar Beach and Shinnecock Inlet are good. Worms and metal jigs such as the Hopkins and J-7 fished slow and close to the bottom are the ticket. The Hudson River comes alive in April with fish evident at Crawbuckie Beach, in and around the Croton River, the oyster beds, Tellers Point, and Sing Sing to Tarrytown. Worms, bucktails and thin minnow type plugs all score.

In Connecticut, fish slow during the first week of April but consistent fishing does not occur usually until the 3rd and

4th week. The Greenwich and Norwalk Islands seem to score every year. Worms, bottom fished and drifted are top producers. Alou Eels, Eelets, Elvers and bucktails are excellent artificials as are the thin minnow type plugs.

May— By the first week of May we find more fish in the teens and more fish responding to lures. We hear of more "big scores", often from Connecticut's Norwalk Islands, and an occasional lunker. On the North Shore of Long Island fish are more evident along the entire west side of the Sound. Also big fish appear in the Hudson—fish in the teens, 20's and up to a 38 pounder taken on a Mee Mee at Crawbuckie Beach.

By May 10th scattered reports of big fish span the coast. Consistent areas are

Island Beach Park and Point Pleasant, New Jersey (worms) and especially those areas in Rhode Island that host spawning herring. There the real thing brings the early lunkers to gaff. Occasional big fish also show under schools of mackerel. Each year there are a few reports of stray fish caught on jigs from Manasquan to Atlantic Beach. Unfortunately, there are not consistent reports of success to support a personal theory that large schools of bass migrate far offshore, under the mackerel; fish that probably feed very lightly because of sluggish metabolisms caused by low water temperatures.

May 17th, give or take a few days, marks the start of the cow season and the Jersey Shore is the place to be.



The author with two of the many cows that couldn't resist big Danny Plugs at Flynn's Knoll.

Surfcasters score best with worms, mackerel strips and live herring. Boatmen should concentrate on Shrewsbury Rocks, Sea Bright and the Highlands using large white or gold swimming plugs before light and bunker spoons or large red surgical tubes or rubber eels thereafter. Umbrella rigs with a single trailing tube down the center take all sized fish. Black and purple lures excel when sandeels abound. Lunkers can lie anywhere from the wash to 50' in these areas. Often the fish are high, from 10 to 20 feet below the surface, even at the 40 or 50 foot mark, hanging around the many schools of bunker that usually invade the area at this time. Interestingly, although our reconstructed diary showed that as early as mid-May a number of lunkers fell to fresh bunker and herring (3 in the 60's in 1974 including a 64½ pound reported on a whiting!), personal diary entries gave trolls the big edge.

Mid-May also is the time for very hot schoolie action along the Jersey Coast, the South Shore of Long Island, Western Long Island Sound (Crane Neck, White-wood Point, Mattituck Point), and the Hudson River. Along the Connecticut Coast, especially at Greenwich and the Norwalk Islands in addition to schoolies

a number of 20 and 30 pound fish have been taken on cut mackerel, plugs and herring.

By about May 25th big fish are found at numerous additional locations. The Highlands and Sandy Hook are great with bunker spoons, big surgical tubes and fresh bunker accounting for most fish. Flynn's Knoll often turns red hot with large white or gold plugs scoring very early in the morning, evenings and during the night. Spoons, white buck-tails with pork rind and red tubes (sometimes maroon, black or dark blue when sandeels abound) are better during daylight hours. Note that bunker spoons often don't work well when the current is really ripping. A short run lasting 2 or 3 days often hits Far Rockaway on Long Island's south shore, although the next concentration of bass doesn't hit that area until about June 10th. The early fish often fall to bunker spoons trolled in 15 to 25 feet of water. Early morning is bet. Some big fish now are found all along Atlantic Beach, Long Beach, Lido Beach, Jones Beach and Fire island usually succumbing to fresh bunker or bunker spoons. This fishing seldom compares to the New Jersey action or Montauk which usually turns red hot. The last few years at Montauk have been sensational

through the beginning of June. One boat reported 63 fish up to 43 pounds in a single day and other boats took two or three dozen fish apiece from 15 to 25 pounds with some in the 30's and 40's. Bucktails and umbrellas did best. That's because Montauk bass usually gorge on sandeels rather than bunker or herring. The Elbow and Pollack Rip are two of the best areas from now through Mid-June.

Schoolies now frequent most inlets and bays and, depending on the area, worms, clam chum, mackerel strips and all sorts of artificials do well.

Connecticut shows inconsistent results at this time, perhaps suggesting that migrating big fish simply pass by the area some years, or that the early big fish are Hudson River stock are now further north. However, Narragansett Bay and Nantucket now often report numerous big fish; unfortunately, we just don't have much information on this area.



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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Don't Forget the Kids

I sat in the stern of the rented skiff, doing no fishing, and yet enjoying myself to the utmost. In the bow sat Henny Bibbler, my neighbor's kid, his ripe old age of twelve reflected in the anxious eyes riveted on the tip of the light spinning rod in his hand.

I saw the rod twitch twice and I threw a quick glance at the kid, but he was right on the ball. He set the hook with a quick flip of his wrist and after a short, spirited battle, lifted a fair-sized flounder aboard. I watched him unhook it like a pro and place it in the bucket.

"That's three," he said proudly.

"There's a lot more down there,

Go get em."

And get 'em he did. When quitting time arrived six more flatties had gone into his bucket. Not bad I thought, for the kid's first fishing trip. I didn't catch a fish that day, but it didn't matter. I sort of hoped I had made—and added—a new fisherman to the coming generation.

Have you ever taken a kid fishing? No? Well, don't feel too badly about it. You've got plenty of company. Most fishermen are so intent on the pursuit of their finny quarry, they often overlook the joy that comes with sharing their sport with someone less fortunate.

And I can't think of anyone being less fortunate than some starry-eyed kid who dreams of fishing, but hasn't a ghost of a chance of fulfilling that longing. That is, not unless some adult fisherman notices the kid's plight, takes pity, and includes him on the next fishing trip.

Granted, not every kid is a potential fisherman, but you can be sure these youngsters are few and far between. So few and far between that I've yet to meet one whose eyes failed to twinkle when asked the magic words: "How'd you like to go fishing.?"

Sure, kids can be a pain in the tail; the lively, wide-awake kid is always that. Do you remember your first fishing trip as a kid? I'll bet there was someone close by wishing you'd go overboard with the bait.

When Captain Tom Griffenberg ran his party boat Survivor II out of Island Park several years ago, I remember he made it a point not to forget the kids. Just about every weekday during the summer, various Island Park youngsters were guests aboard his vessel. That those kids had a ball catching sea bass



A fisherman in the making...they're never too young!

and porgies from the many wrecks we fished, goes without saying. There is no doubt, most have continued to fish to this day. And is that bad?

Many fine fraternal organizations recognize the need that exists, and they, too, do something about it. They unselfishly and cheerfully devote their leisure hours to the staging of fishing contests for children throughout the summer months, giving prizes of first-class fishing tackle for the largest and smallest fish caught.

Local, county and city governments sponsor fishing programs, too, and so do large area department stores. Many newspaper publishers throughout our country are great believers in the wholesome effect fishing has upon children and they don't hesitate to stand up and be counted when called upon. I doff my fishing cap to all these fine,

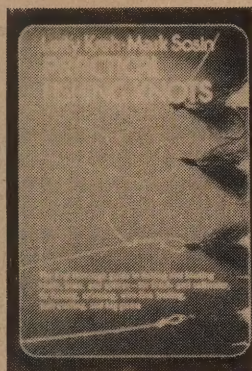
public spirited folks and their unselfish motives, for they surely realize that as the twig is bent, so shall the tree grow, but they can't do it by themselves.

Just recently I was discussing these thoughts with a group of fishermen. One of them said he believed it would be wonderful if fishermen able to do so would take a youngster fishing whenever the opportunity presented itself. What a fine thing that would be was the way he expressed himself. And he was right, of course. It certainly would be a fine thing to do: to instill in some eager youngster a life-long love for nature and her finny creatures.

So, Mr. Fisherman, when you see that neighbor's kid looking at you with those doe-like eyes, don't ignore him. Check with his parents, and then take him fishing. He'll never forget you. Believe me, I know.



The Fisherman Library

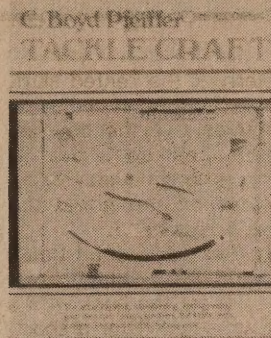


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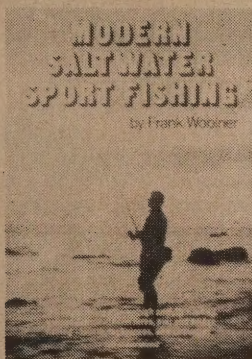


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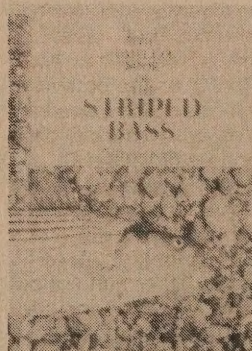


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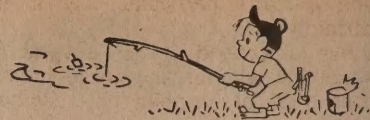


The Long Island Fisherman
P.O. Box 143, Dept. B
Deer Park, New York 11729

FRESHWATER FISHING

with Angelo Peluso

Watershed Wonderland



The invitation was one that I could not turn down. How could I possibly refuse an offer to venture onto a body of water that I heretofore had never fished. That bit of pioneer spirit within me caused my inner self to respond instinctively to my friend's offer with an unquestionable "Yes! When are we going?"

This offer was made several years ago and represented my first encounter with Westchester County watershed fishing. It proved to be an extremely valuable experience to me and will most certainly be of interest to the Long Island freshwater angler who would like to broaden his or her fishing horizons.

My destination on this trip was Lake Gilead, located in lower Putnam County. Gilead, incidentally, is part of the Westchester watershed system and is bordered by lake Glenida and West Branch Reservoir to the northwest, Lake Carmel to the north, Bog Brook Reservoir, Middle Branch Reservoir and East Branch Reservoir to the east, Lake Mahopac to the west and Croton Falls Reservoir and assorted others to the south. Believe me, this is pretty impressive company. The lake I was to fish is one of the smallest watershed bodies. As a matter of fact, it's proportions are that of a small sized lake. This feature turned out to be a true blessing in disguise since one of the watershed restrictions mandates rowing as the only means of propulsion.

On this particular trip our sights were set on largemouth bass. My fishing buddy had heard a few rumors of eight pound bucketmouths being caught several weeks prior, and this was his first opportunity to get out. So the two of us, accompanied by a mutual friend loaded up the Scout with fishing gear and drove the short distance to the lake. Once at Lakeside, our first chore was to unchain the 14 foot jonboat from the tree to which it was secured. Reservoir regulations require that a sea-worthy craft at least 12 feet in length be permanently maintained at the particular watershed location. This can prove to be quite costly, should you desire to fish more than one of the reservoirs, but it is nevertheless a rule strictly enforced, as you will see shortly. As a point of information make note that some fishermen pool their boat resources and maintain boats at several locations for use by every member of the group. This is an idea to keep in the back of your



Say hello to reservoir bass. Just a 25 mile drive from the city limits.

mind if you have intentions to sample the variety that the multitude of watershed areas offers.

We proceeded to put our gear and ourselves into the boat and were in the process of shoving off when a watershed officer appeared from nowhere to challenge us. The officer's first question related to whether or not the boat was registered for use on Lake Gilead. Upon checking a notebook that he was carrying, he was able to verify the registration numbers. The officer then asked that we present our watershed fishing permits. A permit is required in order to fish any of the freshwater bodies that are contained within the watershed system. As a point of information, the permits can be obtained free of charge from the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity. Issuing offices are located in Manhattan, Prattsville, Downsville, The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, Richmond, Valhalla, Katonah, Kingston or Grahamsville. Remember, if you decide to apply for a permit bring a mug shot of yourself so that it can be attached to the inner portion of the permit. After displaying our permits to the satisfaction of the inspecting officer, we were on our way to get some bass.

Gilead is primarily known for its fine catches of lake trout, and it is for this specie of fish that most of the area fishermen concentrate on. During our row (unfortunately motors are not allowed, even electric.) we noticed a few of the local anglers situated off of the

fringes of some of the better known trout holes. The group appeared to be a fraternal type one, since each was anchored quite close to the next. They fish Gilead quite often, almost always together and often very successfully. Since the reservoirs are not that heavily fished, I gather that most of the "regulars" know each other very well.

With such an emphasis on trout, I was most pleased to notice that no one but ourselves appeared to be out bass fishing. According to my friend's analysis of the "best" bass spots, these locations are considered the consistent producers. Nice thing is that they were vacant, just waiting for us to chuck a few lures into them. A few of the spots that we visually located looked to be very promising. We moved to one of the more prominent features, a point, to begin our day's bassin'. This first piece of structure brought to light some very interesting facts about the lake, each of which played an important role in the day's fishing.

As we eased the boat into position just off the point, the electronic flasher indicated a depth of 35 feet. Mind you that we were no more than a cast's distance from the shore. As I was to find out later on, most of the shoreline that we would be fishing had fairly deep water of 25 or more feet. Another fact that quickly surfaced was that of water clarity and light penetration. As I lowered a white spinner bait vertically I was able to make out its distinctive form

even at the 35 foot depth. This condition can mean real trouble to a bassin' man, and on this particular day it most certainly did.

We proceeded to fish several such situations without any success whatsoever. It was at this point that I decided to pause and reflect upon the various alternatives. What we were presently fishing was water that was too clear for bass fishing at the time of day that we were on the water. I felt very certain that these deep, clear conditions would not produce.

I then spotted what appeared to be a small, back water cove and decided that it was worthy of investigation. Depth readings were taken upon our approach to the cove, and we became pleasantly surprised to find deep water surrounding the concave formation. At the edge of the cove, the point where the water dropped off, I noticed a very prominent weed line. This was the most promising looking that we came upon. The back water itself had a somewhat tainted color, much darker than the adjacent deep water. The cove deserved a really good work out, and that's just what we gave it.

Rigging with crank baits that would run at a level barely above the weeds, we began to cast. Well, it wasn't long before I had my first bass of the day, and not much longer after that 'till I had my limit. My buddies were into fish also. We didn't catch any very large bass (the largest was 3½ pounds), but we certainly learned a few interesting facts about bass behavior. The entire reservoir system offers the bass angler an opportunity to fish under a variety of conditions and situations. In the final analysis, an angler's ability to adapt to changing circumstances is what will determine the degree to which he is successful.

One of the most significant drawbacks about watershed fishing is that the fisherman must both leave a boat permanently at a lake site, and he must also propel the craft by rowing only. This can and does hamper one's fishing. Hopefully, this situation might change in the future. Many other cities and states allow motorized, transient craft on their watersheds. As a case in point, some of California's best bass waters happen to be reservoirs. But, I guess for the time being we must live with what we have. After all, the fishing is excellent, and I've yet to meet a true fisherman who wouldn't endure some sort of hardship for the thrill of catching his favorite gamefish. The watersheds have enormous potential and are presently severely underfished. Why not make an attempt to gather some of the pickings. Give them a try. As time goes by maybe all of us can work together in an attempt to obtain a more "fisherman oriented" use policy. Anyway, good fishing.

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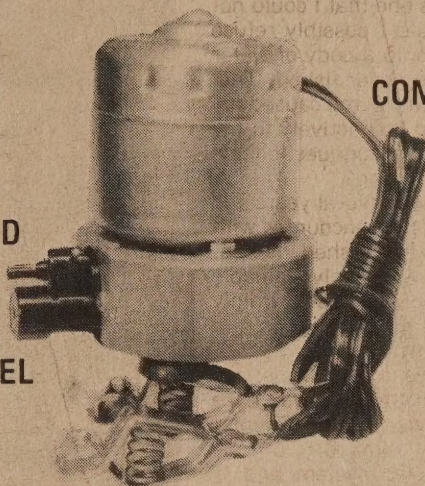
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Surf Side

with Vito Orlando

The Forgotten Warrior

By the first of May, flounder fishing has become an old trick, the striped bass, although present, are still too few, bluefishing is still well over a month into the future, and the weakfish, which have made a comeback in recent years may easily occupy your time. However, if you are like me and feel that a change of pace is in order try fishing for that forgotten warrior the blackfish.

These fish, almost forgotten by today's surf fishermen, appear in numbers each spring throughout the waters of Long Island. The fishing reaches a peak in late May and early June. This is especially true of the Island's north shore. Blessed with many giant boulders, small rocks and mussel beds, the north shore is a haven for these toothy creatures. The abundance of bait, such as worms, crabs, and other delicacies provide an ideal dinner for these hungry blackfish.

Since the area that can be fished is very vast, I will confine this writing to one location, "Miller Place." It is here, that in past years I have caught a great many blackfish. These fish run upwards to eight and nine pounds, with larger fish being reported.

During the spring, especially the first two weeks of May, the preferred bait at Miller Place is the sandworm. Since the blackfish have not fed with regularity throughout the colder months, their mouths are still somewhat tender. At this time they prefer something a little softer. As the waters warm, and their

feeding increases, the fiddler and the green crab become more appealing to them.

Bloodworms will not produce as well as sandworms. Hence their use should be avoided if possible.

Be sure to cover the entire hook with the sandworm. Blackfish can be very finicky when it comes to eating. If they observe anything out of the ordinary, they may shun your offering. Cut the sandworm in halves or quarters depending his size. Thread the worm up to the know of the hook. The point should come to rest at the extreme end of the worm.

You may have read or been told that the point of the hook should protrude so as to insure instant penetration. This is true, when fishing with a hard bait, however the sandworm is soft and you will have little problem hooking these fish. The blackfish will also strike a soft bait in a slightly different manner than it will a hard bait.

Your hooks should be sharpened, since the blackfish have very tough lips. Gently file the points of these hooks until they are needle sharp. Even the most recent store bought hooks should be touched up.

The hooks that you should use are the regular blackfish style (Virginia #15-8). Two hooks should be tied together to make a rig. To do this, place the hook portion of one leader through the loop in the mono of the other. Pull down on the hook until the loop reaches the midpoint

of the other snell. At this point tie two knots, one with each hook. You should now have a strong non slip rig. When held in your hand one hook will be four inches away from the knot. The other will be almost a full leader length away.

The use of tar line hooks should be avoided. They will not account for as many fish as will the mono leader hooks. These hooks should now be tied three to four inches above the sinker.

You should not use a pyramid sinker at Miller Place. There are many rocks and mussel beds that can easily grab hold of it. I have found that a bank type sinker works well, as it is somewhat thinner and you have a lesser chance of getting stuck.

To consistently score with these fish your bait must be in the feeding zone. This is easily accomplished by "over-casting." This should not offer many problems, as these fish are close to the beach. Once you by-pass these fish, start a slow retrieve back. You will feel your sinker moving along the sandy bottom. Upon feeling the pull of the rocks or mussels on your sinkers, stop reeling. You are now in an area in which you are likely to catch blackfish. If your bait is out of the rocky portions of this area your chances of catching fish are greatly diminished.

When you hook a blackfish, keep your tip high and reel. This way you will have a better chance of keeping his head out of the rocks. If this does not happen, and you get hung up, don't panic. Keep your rod tip high and your line tight. Hit the butt of your rod with a free hand. This will sometimes cause the fish to swim free of the obstacle. The constant pulling of the hook in the fish's mouth will cause him to find a location in which the pressure will be relieved. Sometimes it is only the sinker that is caught, and the fish will help you free it. Some anglers I know use a thinner diameter mono. To hold the sinker to their line. In this way, if the unexpected happens, at least they will save their hooks, and maybe a fish.

The line that is used should not be less than 15 pound test. Most regulars use 20 pound test on a medium action rod. This enables them to pull free from almost any obstacles especially the mussel beds. It also helps them to defeat these hard fighters more quickly.

Tides are very important at Miller Place. The current has to be moving, but not too swiftly. This is why the best fishing is had two hours before until two



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hours after high tide. Once the tide reaches its maximum at high water, the pace will slacken. This will change as the tide reverses direction and begins to ebb.

Winds are a factor here. If they blow too strong from a northerly direction the fishing will fall off. These waters have a tendency to become cloudy and dirty during the north winds. A southeast will produce, providing the sea weed is not abundant. The south and southwest wind will calm the already quiet waters of the north shore. Very good fishing can be had during these winds. A west wind will produce as will an east wind. However, an east wind will no doubt bring rain and some grass but if it is not too strong, this wind will be productive.

The presence of the full moon will not inhibit the fishing. As a matter of fact, you can gain an extra hour of fishing during this time. The tides will run a little higher than normal, thus putting more on the beach sooner. I usually begin fishing three and a half hours before high water when this condition prevails.

A sand spike should be carried. Waders are not necessary, as the surf here is very calm. If you are like I am, a thermos of hot liquid should be carried. There are no stores available to purchase coffee.

Miller Place yields some fascinating catches of blackfish each spring. Most people can be seen catching a few fish, with the better fishermen out producing all others. Not only do the blackfish offer a good fight when hooked, but they are fine table fare.

Your children can also enjoy this fishing. I often take my two daughters, who have caught blackfish up to six pounds here.

But now you must be wondering how to get to Miller Place. It is easily accessible from North Country Road. Turn toward the water (north) at the Amoco Gas Station in Miller Place. You will be on Landing Road and follow it to the waters edge.

The purchasing of bait can be somewhat of a problem, especially on the weekends. I have solved this by stopping by Port Jeff Sporting Goods, located in Port Jefferson Shopping Area on Route 112. There is always an abundant supply of bait available, and it is a short ride to the fishing grounds.

Before closing, some words of ecology. Please do not litter the beach. Many times I have picked up after "so called fishermen", who discarded bait boxes, beer, and soda cans etc. One town official told me "That unless we keep the beach clean it will be put off limits to all but local residents". You are a guest here, so do not overstay your welcome. And please, no fires on the beach.

Good luck and good fishing.



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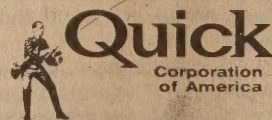
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BASS FISHING *with Capt. John DeMaio*

Part II The Phantom of Broad Channel

Fishing the tracks was a pleasure. On both sides of the double track was a cement path about 2 feet wide. One inch cable strung between supports, placed every ten feet, made an excellent railing. A railing that was no more than waist high. This gave you easy rod handling. The rod incidentally was a flounder pole with a Penn bay reel. My method was still the same, slowly walk the lure along. As you can see, the cement walk and the short rail was ideal. Only signal lights gave a problem. You would have to switch the rod from one hand to the other when going around the light.

Unlike the old track line, where the fisherman was stopped by the constantly open channel, another city block of tracks was available. As the tracks came closer to Rockaway, they elevated. This is where the airport traffic now passes thru. The channel was now on the far south end. What I didn't know then, but was to find out, was that the extra city block was to be the hot spot.

My first attempt at fishing the tracks was one of innocence. I just stayed at the rail and let the trains go by. As if I had paid a fare on a head boat. Naturally I was chased by a motorman. No excuse me, a conductor. From the middle of the train no less. Motormen came later. So did the police.

The answer was to hide. Along the cement walk were two outcroppings. These little 10 by 2 feet enclosures held the main signal lights. Inside, of a cable rail, they had a cement wall. This was perfect. Not only could you hide, but you could also hide some gear and the fish. (A wet shiny bass would pick up any light like a reflector.) Everything must have a catch and this hiding place most certainly did. I usually fished only the outgoing tide. On that side of the tracks. The hiding spot was on the other side of the tracks. This meant that I had to hop over 2 third rails to reach it. Making sure to leave enough time so the motorman would not see me. When the trains came from Rockaway, I would be silhouetted against the Broad Channel Station lights. Coming out of the station seeing me would be difficult with nothing but the black of the tracks behind me.

I had some pair in those days to be hopping across third rails. Even in rain and sometimes fog. When young we believe we are indestructible. The first arthritic pain to come along brings us to reality. Still I did, and I am here to write about it. And yet, all I had to do was trip. Just once.

Choice of clothing was very important. Black, or close to it, was the best color. An absolute must was a pair of sneakers. No need to explain the sneakers. I did not even allow myself a flashlight. When lighting a cigarette I would cup the match. The game was played well on my part.

After a time I began to understand the train schedule. If I was fishing early in the night, the commuter traffic was heavy. They seemed to come by one after another. Later on it was one every twenty minutes. Best of all, both trains would pass one another, just about where I fished. This would give me 20 minutes of uninterrupted fishing. Instead of jumping over live rails every ten minutes. Sometimes they would pass so closely together that I had to change positions in my cement walled hideout. Quickly moving in a crouched position, from one side to the other. Always keeping a cement wall between myself and a train. That was my feeling of security.

The trains kind of cooperated in letting me know of their on coming presence. From New York, they would first stop at the station. The ones coming from Rockaway, like I said, could usually be heard a way off in Rockaway Beach. If not there, as they climbed up over the channel on the far south end (like the roller coaster going up the first hill) click, click, click, and then began picking up speed as it made the descent. Of course, times were when I was fooled and caught out in the open. This would happen when the fishing was good and the wind hid the sound of the trains. What I would do then is just crouch behind one of the supports that held the railing cables and hope I went unnoticed.

The anticipation and excitement after climbing up on the tracks was tremendous. As I ran slowly down the length of

the tracks to my favorite spot, which was the far end up against the beach, I would listen. Not only for the trains, but for the bass. Many nights I could hear them busting water under the trestle. The noise would bounce off the cement supports and echo an exaggeration of the size. Ten pounders sounded like they weighed 30 pounds.

Some nights I could see fish below me in the dark. Swimming thru the swirls behind the trestle supports and rolling at the surface. You must remember my position reader. Here I was suspended over the fish no more than 12 feet at high tide. No awareness of my presence was possible. No lights to make shadows. No boat to intrude into their world. Ideal would best describe it. The only disadvantage, besides the obvious, was reeling the fish up and over the rail. With experience, those that felt bigger would be dragged up on the beach and then lifted. In case the fish dropped off he would fall on the land. All I had to do then was jump down and pick him up. The fence arrangement was different on that side and easy to negotiate.

One of the biggest bass I ever caught in that bay I landed in that manner. The fish weighed 28 pounds. About 8 years later, another one, it also weighed 28 pounds. That one was caught in a boat. Both fish made the paper. Strangely enough both stories were confused.

The one I caught on the tracks, I walked into Marino's tackle store on Crossbay and Liberty. With the fish in my hand, (by now I was driving.) Frank Marino was behind the counter. He asked me where I caught the fish. I told him. He doubted it because he saw the sand. The sand was explained, he believed me. At this point Frank Keating phones for the usual weekly fishing hash. Marino talks, then puts me on the phone and whispers in my free ear, "Tell him you caught it in the surf, Rockaway Beach". You guessed it, the fish ended up being caught on 114 st., Rockaway Beach. The other 28 pounder was caught casting bucktails back by the Idlewile piers. When it made the paper it was caught by someone else. a steady customer of Smitty's Fishing Station,

supposedly trolling. Also, the fish gained a few pounds.

Getting back to that night on the tracks, a friend fished with me that night. Vinnie was not a steady fisherman, but capable. Plus the method was simple. By now I had given up the worms and was using only bucktails. My method had not changed. All I did was drag the bucktail as I did the worm. We already had caught some fish when Vinnie nailed something big. I reeled in my line to help if necessary. The fish took the 20 pound test line twice and hung into that tide good. Finally the line parted when the fish made a turn. About 10 minutes, or one train later, I had my turn. When I jumped down on the beach, and dragged that exhausted fish up on the sand, I gave a shout. Aside from fish that I had caught trolling at Montauk, this was the largest I had taken in that manner. And also an impressive fish for the area. When Vinnie got a close look at it, he felt worse. Now he had an idea of how big the one he lost was.

The amount of fish I caught was never great. One dozen was about the best I ever did. But it was consistent. It seemed I was always good for two or three. Rarely was I stiffed. Nice size stuff too. In years to come the bay became overrun with shorts. I know I would have done better if I had the knowledge. You know reader, the old chestnut "If I only knew then, what I know now." But I still managed. Eventually I would only fish the ebb tide. And the last 3 hours at that. That was the sure thing.

A kindly old gent, by the name of Dicker, a steady customer at Smitty's kept a boat moored a season or two right off my spot. Many a bass was lost around that mooring chain. The fish would hit, take line, and head for the chain. To this day I don't think I ever told Dicker about that. It is wise to avoid conversations about the "Good ole days" with "Old Timers". Generally speaking, the years distort the truth. The fish get bigger with each passing year. Only plastic man can stretch his arms out wide enough to estimate the size of the fish spoken of.

How I began using the bucktail, and stopped using worms, goes like this.

I knew that the Broad Channel tracks were not the only part of the trestle that held bass. The Howard Beach side also had its share. A problem of getting on the tracks prevented my fishing the north end. On the Howard Beach side, access was good, but leaving the car unattended in such a remote spot was just asking for trouble. The parking lot at the first bridge, Cross Bay Blvd, was the nearest point to the opposite end of the trestle. All you had to do was walk a ¼ mile across marshy wetland to get there. In the black of the night. That was out of the question. With the high tide

you could disappear out there. So as you can see, I never did bother to fish that spot. Especially when I had a good thing going elsewhere. A small stroke of luck changed all that.

Because of a need for some type of construction along that part of the tracks, a small dirt road was laid down from Cross Bay Blvd to the tracks. (What I did not know is that the road was there a long time. Only covered by grass and eroded by high tides.) It was a simple matter to pull off the boulevard and drive the road to the tracks. Park the car, walk about 4 blocks and up on the tracks.

First night I tried this place, I had 16 bass. About 50 percent were shorts and returned. It looked like another winner. Even though the fish were smaller, I had more bites, more action. Best of all this was all on the incoming tide. More important than anything was that I ran out of bait. That was one time when running out of bait was helpful.

Next week I went back with a friend. We had 3 dozen sandworms, and a couple of bucktails. Both of us started off with worms. The fish were biting good so I tried the bucktail. My friend stayed with the worms. After it was all over we both ended up equally as well, perhaps myself leading by a few fish, and I used the bucktail. So that did it. Why buy worms anymore? Sometimes buying worms presented a problem. Trying to buy worms at 1 o'clock in the morning can be difficult. You had to do it early in the day. Final count that night was about 44 bass. Out of which we kept 24. The rest were shorts or close to it.

Finally the road was closed over. Too many younger kids used the road for a passion pit and getting stuck in the sand. My time spent fishing this north end was very little. Just as well, I did not care for the methods of reaching the spot. Time was beginning to run out for me along the tracks.

A good buddy, and bass fanatic had a boat. He showed me that the tracks were only a small part of bass fishing that day. Tommy showed me the way to new techniques, secret night time lures, and new areas. Or better yet, how to explore new areas. Thru him I had a good start. The years that followed found us learning and exploring together. With all this new found world, I still fished the tracks on occasion. When the tide was right, and my time was limited, a few hours would satisfy my bass fever. Yet, one week I fished it hot and heavy and exposed myself.

One night, at the end of this week, I was in my hiding place waiting for the train to leave the station. Instead of gaining speed and whizzing by me, the train was coming at a very slow speed. As it came slowly closer, (the suspense was beginning to mount) I could see the front window was down and a policeman

was standing there. The motorman had his door open and was talking to the cop. It was obvious they were after me. I forced my body closer to the wall and pulled the three bass out of the light and on my lap. Good thing the train was on the opposite side of me. As they went by at a painfully slow rate of speed, they missed me. I waited for one car to clear me, then I picked up the bass, the rod and ran off the tracks.

That did it. Not so much for the fear of arrest, but a change in life style. The next two years was spent in the United States Army. After returning to civilian life things had changed. For many reasons. My experience of catching striped bass on the Independent Subway System was over. I went back several times more, after that night of cops and robber, but that was it.

To tell you the truth, I never believed they would try to arrest me. Because the night before, I had a few words with a motorman that was more friendly than hostile. I had a decent bass on the line while a train was coming out of the station. So I said the hell with it. Why hide? Play the fish and let the train pass. The train did not go past. It pulled right up to me and the motorman opened his window and looked down at me, "Say, he said in a friendly manner, "You're gonna have to get off these tracks." Not looking for trouble I simply replied, "Okay, I'm leaving now." "Wait a minute," he answered. What followed was the writing on the wall. This should have convinced me the end was here. His final words will always be remembered. With a smile on his face he asked, "Were you out last night?" "Yes, I was." With a reassuring nod of his head that showed me he was not crazy, (he did see something in the dark last night) he said, "I thought so, You know what the boys back in the shop call you?" "No, what?" With his answer came my title, "The Phantom of Broad Channel."

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WEAKFISH: The Old Way

by Capt. Ron Onorato

My first exposure to the weakfish was in the early 70's when they made their reappearance after nearly a generation of absence. I along with a great many anglers, enjoyed casting those tiny pink shrimps to the weaks in Great South Bay and loading up on them. On the light spinning tackle that we used, they were a ball.

Last spring I was all prepared to have another go at the yellowfins with the pink shrimps again. However, one of my real old time fishing friends said to give him a shout if I wanted to try weakfishing the "old way."



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This intrigued me quite a bit. Casting the shrimps was lots of fun, but anything that's new, is always more fun. So when the second week of May rolled around, I looked up this chap and made arrangements for a trip to Great South Bay.

He was quite enthusiastic about this trip, but before we went, he said there was something we had to do. In order to weakfish the "old way" we needed a couple of pails of grass shrimp. Since there are few, if any bait dealers that carry live grass shrimp, it was necessary that we get our own. Getting our own meant going down to the marshes of Jamaica Bay and with the use of a net, scooping up a couple of pail fulls.

At first I thought that getting our bait supply would be impossible. From all I heard and read, the marshes of Jamaica Bay were pretty well shot, and that little life really was left there. Well to my surprise, the area where we went to net the grass shrimp was not only alive, but it was flourishing with all sorts of marine life. Despite the early date, there were loads of spearing and minnows in the water. In just a half an hour, we had a pail full of grass shrimp. A couple of tiny flounders even ended up in net. It was most rewarding to see an area so heavily polluted at one time, to exhibit such a display of life. Perhaps there is hope after all.

Since I never dealt with grass shrimp personally, I had no idea at all on how to keep them alive for use the next day. As I learned, the grass shrimp is a quite hardy animal that can live for a length of time out of water if kept cool and moist. The way this is done was by soaking a load of paper towels in the salt water and putting them in a plastic pail. When we got home, we took the paper towels out of the pail and wrung them until they were just damp. I had some old cardboard pastry boxes, and I lined the bottom of them with the moist paper towels. After this was done, we took about half the pail of shrimp and put them onto the paper towels. The shrimps were spread out so that they wouldn't ball up into one lump. On top of these shrimps, we put another layer of moist paper towels. Care had to be taken so as not to squeeze the bottom layer too

much. Ontop of the second layer of shrimp, we put the rest of the pail of shrimp. This layer was covered with the remaining paper towels.

The entire cardboard box was then placed into a refrigerator and the temperature was lowered. Personally, I thought that we would find nothing but a load of dead, smelly shrimp in the morning, but my friend assured me that shrimps kept in this manner will last for a couple of days provided that the temperature is kept at its lowest setting.

He knew what he was talking about, for although the shrimp weren't exactly jumping around, they were alive when we opened the box early the next morning. He explained that as the box became warmer, the shrimp would become more active. The cold temperature puts them in a state of suspended animation.

Although we would use the shrimp as bait as well as for chum, we stopped at the bait store and bought 4 dozen sandworms. Sandworms are about the most reliable weakfish bait there is.

The weakfish had been in Great South Bay for about a week and some nice scores had been wracked up the previous day. When we arrived at the launching ramp at Heckscher State Park, there were a few boats ahead of us. I was impatient, but my friend assured me there would be plenty of time. The sun was well up and the wind was light, and it looked like a very nice day ahead.

It seemed as though every boat that was launched from the ramp was heading straight for Ocean Beach, which was across the bay. By the time we arrived for a look, there were over 50 boats drifting the area. Most of the occupants of the boats were into fish too. "Too many boats here. Besides the current is a might bit fast" observed my aged friend. I looked around and found some breathing room around buoy 4, which was north of Ocean Beach. Just another boat was in the area.

The water was only about 6 feet deep here, and the current light. Just for the heck of it, I cast out a Pink Lupo shrimp a few times. Sure enough, the third cast produced a fat 5 pounder. A glance from my friend told me that this was the spot

I quietly lowered the anchor. The lack of current made it hard to come about, but the wind eventually took us. From this point on, I merely watched. My partner took the first layer of paper towels off the box, and to my amazement the shrimp were hopping all over the place. He took a handful and scattered them about the side. He went to the back and threw a handful from the stern. The shrimp darted in all directions once they hit the water. The time to start fishing was at hand.

Our tackle was pretty much the same. I had a very light bait casting conventional outfit and baitcasting reel with 10 pound mono. I had used this outfit to chum bass in the past, and it worked out very well.

I was surprised once more at the size of the hooks we used. Normally I use a 2/0 hook for chumming, but we used #1 Eagle Claws tied directly to the line with no leaders or swivels.

It took a few minutes to get set up, so some more chum had to be dispersed. Now I noticed that my friend was pinching the shrimp in the head and then throwing them over the side. Instead of darting away quickly, the shrimp swam around in circles. I was told that when you first arrive at a spot the idea is to get the chum scattered so that they will draw

the fish from a distance, afterwards, you want the chum to keep the fish around the boat.

I baited the tiny hook with a whole sandworm, while my friend preferred to stay with the shrimp. He took two shrimp, and inserted the hook just below the back of the first, then did the same to the second one. Now I saw the need for such small hooks. Rather than mess up things, I left the chumming to my friend with the educated fingers.

It was apparent that he was doing something right, for no sooner had I drifted out my worm, than a fish picked it up. Because of the small hook, I hit the fish quick. It was a good fish and gave a quite spirited fight on the light tackle. In short order, a 6 pound weak was in the boat.

From that point on, as long as the shrimp kept going, so did the weaks. It mattered little if a worm or shrimp was used for bait, the weaks took both eagerly. It was a little easier to hook the fish with the shrimps because they usually swallowed them. At times, the fish would nip the worm and leave a tiny piece.

All that was necessary was to strip off a few feet of mono and cast out the baited hook. More often than not, a weak grabbed the bait as it was drifting

towards the bottom. At times the weaks were so thick that they would grab the bait as soon as it hit the water. At other times, they would grab the hook a few inches from the side of the boat.

Action continued for 5 straight hours at varying degrees of intensity. We even picked a few during slack water. So much for the theory that you need a running current to catch fish when chumming. When the chum ran out, I went back to casting the pink Lupo shrimp, and picked up a couple of more fish. A conservative estimate put the number of fish we caught at over 50. Needless to say we kept only those fish that were badly hooked. Still we had over 30 fish in the box and some of those went to 10 pounds.

As one who had never fished this way for weaks, I was thoroughly satisfied that this was indeed a most enjoyable way of weakfishing. Casting the shrimps is fun, but so is this. I meant to try shrimping out at the Peconics last year, but I never had the time to get a supply of them. A number of calls around the Island were negative, so it became apparent that if I wanted shrimp, it would be necessary to net my own in the bays.

This spring, if time allows it, I will net my own shrimp, and once again will give the weaks a try, the Old way.



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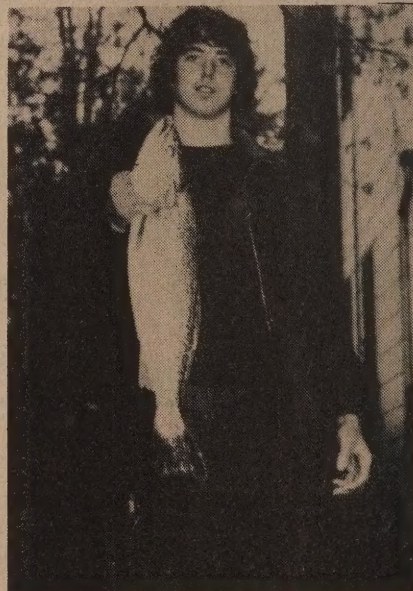
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Eddie Asaro took this 7 lb. 6 oz. weakfish on a pink salty dog off West Island at buoy 10 in Great South Bay.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** reported that the codfishing was very good on Friday, poor to fair on Saturday and very good again on Sunday. Loads of cod, pollack, mackerel, hake and even a few showshoe flounder are now mixed in the catches. The pool was taken on Friday by a fifty pound cod and the average fish runs between 12 and 15 pounds. Many of the anglers are getting off the boat on the good days with a bag or more of fish. Block Island is still the hot area.

Capt. Warren Hader of the charterboat **Devilfish** reported excellent fishing on Saturday and Sunday south of Block Island. On Saturday 19 pollack ranging from 30 to 35 pounds were taken on diamond jigs along with seven cod in the 20 pound class. Best area is south of Block Island in 92 to 110 feet of water. Warren also had a report of a few bluefish being taken off the point on umbrella rigs.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** told us that the fishing has been good all week including the weekend. Artie Martin of New York City was high hook on Saturday with 14 cod and pollack, including a double-header of pollack on a diamond jig with a small red tube tied three feet above on a dropper loop, the Montauk way of pollacking. Many of the anglers had 8 to 12 cod and pollack and you can almost catch all the mackerel you want now. Buddy also told



Robert Konz, Bill Ballance, William Malone and Bill Horton with some of the big cod caught on one of the Peconic Queen III's recent wreck trips.

us that the seabass are starting to move into the Frisbee and Cartwright grounds.

Captain Mike Bock of the charterboat **Super Shark** nailed the first shark of the season, a 6 foot blue shark on Thursday, May 13th. This was roughly 30 miles south of Montauk Point. His mate and nigh Captain, Captain Hickey with Captain Charles Nappy and their wives got this beast after chumming roughly 4 hours. The shark took a drifted bunker bait. It tipped the Montauk Marine Basin scales to a healthy number, but the weight was not available. They also took 400 pounds of big Boston mackerel on this trip.

Captain John DeMaio, whose feature articles on bass fishing have been appearing lately in LIF, called to tell us that he has started accepting charters again for those who want to get in on the spring bass run at Montauk and other inshore fishing. John said that the bass can be expected to show up shortly, more than likely within the next two weeks. The captain specializes in casting bucktails and diamond jigging for bass and bluefish.

Ronnie Delboro of **Gone Fishing Marina** reports big sea bass up to 3 pounds at Outer Shagwong on Squid and Clam. Bottom fishing at the Bell Buoy is producing whiting and ling. All the flounder you want can be had at Montauk Lake from 1 to 1½ pounds. Divers Stan Kuszel and Stanley Sabaloe speared 45 flounder up to 4½ pounds at Rocky Point which is around Blackfish Rock.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** reported that the fishing has been improving with plenty of big cod and pollack being taken on both Saturday and Sunday southeast of Block Island. This weekend will be the last for the new \$20/20 Special and there are still a few openings. Give Brad a call to make the required reservations.

There's plenty of action coming into the **Star Island Yacht Club** according to Capt. Dave McMann of the charterboat

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Bobby Maier, Jackie Suse and Richie James all from Broad Channel with their catch of 780 lbs. of cod and pollack. All of the fish were taken on jigs and tubes aboard Capt. John De Maio's charterboat "Vivienne".

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Stephen Lynch with some of the 48 cod he and his father caught with Capt. Paul Sundberg and mate Jack Damm aboard the charter boat "Montauk" off Block Island. About all of the fish weighed from 15 to 25 lbs. each. Subscriber Club Photo.

Marie II. Plenty of pollack are being taken on diamond jigs south of Block Island in 110 feet of water. The fish are in the 15 to 30 pound range but you have to search around with a good recorder to find the schools of fish. Snowshoe flounder are now in good at Washington Shoals, with good catches on Saturday and fair fishing on Sunday. Dave's boat took 56 flounder from 1½ to 3 pounds there on Saturday and 32 on Sunday. Big flounder are also being taken at Rocky Point near the entrance to Fort Pond Bay and at Eastern Plains Point at Gardiners Island. Best tide has been incoming, with mussels or clams as bait and chum. Loads of nice whiting are being taken in Fort Pond Bay and at the Bell buoy right outside the jetties in 60 to 70 feet of water.

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at the Promised Land Fishing Station said by and large the flounder fishing is holding up. The better boats are coming in with 30 or more flounder with blacks mixed in. The fish factory and Hicks Island are best. Tobaccot and North of Cartwright the flounders can be had.

SHINNECOCK

Mickey at Altenkirch Tackle said the weakfishing was off due to the weather but will soon recover when the sun shines. A couple of 1½ pound blues were caught in Shinnecock Bay by weakfishermen. Porgy fishing is very good in the Peconic. The Capt. Clark Boats had over 500 of them some of which went 2½ pounds. Fluke fishing is coming along well in both Shinnecock Bay and canal. Combo baits work best.

Capt. Clark Bellows Jr. reported that the Captain Clark Boats have been doing

a job with large porgies 1 to 3 pounds and the weakfish are off to a decent start. Best area has been the Middle Grounds and east of Nassau Point. On Saturday over 500 big sea porgies were taken, and Melvin Brown of Jamaica was high hook for the day with 44 porgies and 4 weakfish up to 9¼ pound. The weakfish have all been running big. Big blackfish 8 to 10 pounds and even a few fluke to 6½ pounds are mixed in the catch. Right now seems to be a good time for catching a nice mixed bag of fish out of Peconic Bay.

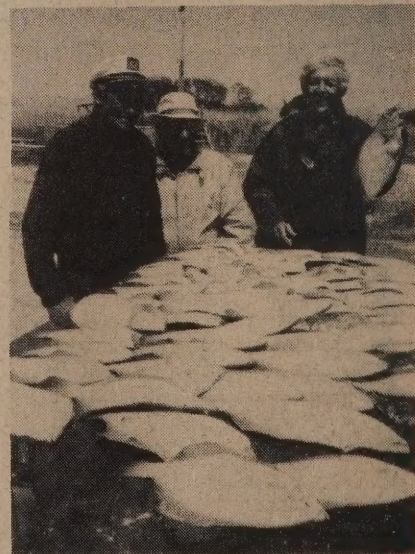
HAMPTON BAYS

Jimmy at Corr's Fishing Station reports the weakfishing at Cows Neck was best in the morning or late afternoon with most catches made with squid tipped Salty Dogs. Two fluke of 5½ and 8 pounds were taken there by weak fishermen. A party of three drifted in front of the station on Sunday and took over 20 keeper fluke in 3 hours using shiners and sandeels. Starting on Saturday gillnetters have taken 1-2 pound blues.

Skippers Fishing Station said the boats came in on Saturday with only 2-3 weaks. Those who switched to fluke in the afternoon had a ½ dozen keepers. On Sunday, Fred Stickwek and party fished in front of the station and took 32 keeper fluke. They came in 3 times for bait.

MORICHES BAY

Silly Lily Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing from the Elbow to buoys 36 and 38. Better than half are keepers. Bait is squid and sand eels



John Oldenborg, Sam Kuskin and Andy Schuman with a nice catch of 68 flounder at bouy 42 on worms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Silly Lily Fishing Station.

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Charles Klostermann, Peter Beck, Bob Croswaite and Joe Defiglia caught 25 weakfish on pink salty dogs at buoy 4 off Heckscher Park. Photo courtesy of Wet-A-Line Bait & Tackle.

combo. Romona said the flounder fishing is good if you stick with it and don't run all over the bay. Excellent catches of big fish were made in the Harts Cove area using mussel chum and worms.

Hi-Way Fishing Station said some excellent fluke fishing was had by boats that had to anchor due to the fog on Saturday. One boat using sandeels and squid had the bottom of the boat covered and two 5 gallon pails full of fluke. Tis action occurred near buoy 36. Flounder fishing is still good at buoy 42 using worms and mussel chum.

Bob Cole at Moriches Bait and Tackle reports weakfish fair at buoys 17 through 12 at the Smithpoint Bridge, along with some 2 to 3 pound blues in the same area on artificials. Ed Nardaltt had 2 on a half ounce Kastmaster. Fluking is excellent at all the regular spots (call Bob for these) on sandeels, squid, killies etc. Flounder action is spotty, fish a half to 1 1/4 pounds.

Seatuck Cove Marina reports Saturday full of fog, wind and rain, but during the week and on Sunday the fluking and flounder fishing was good. On Sunday all the boats that went out had flounder, fishing N/W of buoy 42 and off Haven's Point at the mouth of Seatuck Cove. Boats had 30 to 50 flounder on bloodworm and mussel chum, the ebbing tide best. New Cut produced 20 fluke, all keepers for Bill Heggeman up to 4 pounds. Blue Claws are showing and indicate good crabbing season coming up. It should be emphasized that flounder are still running strong.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports truly great and fabulous fishing for weaks, flounder, fluke, blues and sea bass. Captain Bill and Fred Wedley had 26 weakfish and 1 striped on Saturday morning with squid tipped shrimp jigs at buoy 12 and on the other side of Smith Point Bridge. These fish were 2 1/2 to 7 pounds, taken on the ebb. The bass was 3 1/2 pounds. Bill Stiriz classifies the weakfishing as very good. The fluking

says Bill, is unbelievable at buoy 17. As an example, Hank Golbrick and Andy DiGiuseppe had 45 keepers from 2 1/2 to 3 pounds along with blues from 1 1/2 to 2 pounds on spearing and squid for the fluke and Hopkins and red surge tubes for the blues which were breaking. This is early for blues, even the harbor variety. All of his boats got good catches of fluke all week. Dennis Shea ha 14 fluke and 9 blues, largest fluke 4 1/2 pounds plus some sea bass. Blues are taking bucktails and fluke are also. Largest fluke of the week was taken by Tony Catone of Shirley, at 5 pounds 2 ounces on spearing. Incoming is working best for fluke.

WEST SAYVILLE

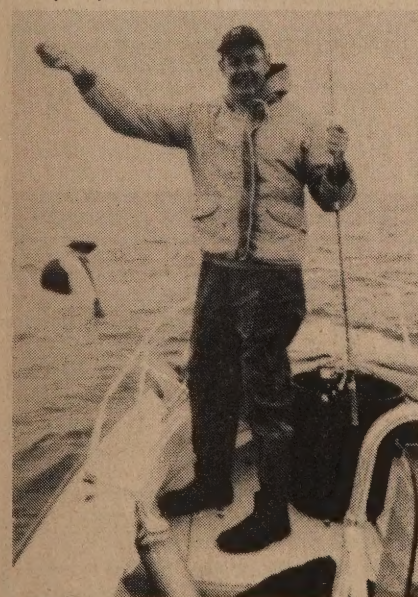
Young's Fishing Station reports good weakfishing at buoys 29 and 30, and also buoys 4,5, and 2 on Salty Dogs and squid. Those who chum with grass shrimp find the effort very much worth while. Blackfish at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers.

American Sportsman's Center advises buoy 4 for weakfish, that there is where they are getting them these last few days on shrimp jigs and Twister type lures. Nice fluking at the bridges and Ocean Beach when the weather is good.

South Bay Fishing Station reports good weakfishing at buoy 19, 4 and 5 with incoming best on all type of lures, fish up to 7 pounds. Fluke between 4 and 5 up to 2 1/2 pounds. Blowfish are around of good size, 4 to 5 per boat at buoys 19 and 30.

EAST ISLIP

Don at Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle reports weakfish off buoy 4 at Heckscher on Sunday on shrimp chum and Salty Dogs jigged in the slick while anchored up. Don got 15 at high slack. Blowfish



Veteran sea robin sharpie Al Kalch of the Babylon Tuna Club hefts a nice robin he took on a salty dog off Ocean Beach.

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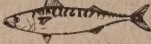
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are also in said. Blacks are at the Kismet Reef, going 3 to 5 pounds on fiddlers and green crabs.

Gary Benkert, 17 years old, of Syosset took a 13 pound 8 ounce weakfish on 6 pound test on Monday evening while drifting on Great South Bay's flats, using a white Lupo Shrimp. This fish was weighed in at Charvin Fishing Station and may tie Doc Grell's record.

11 weakfish up to 8½ pounds were taken by Mr. Louis Lupintin on a white Lupo Shrimp with a Twister pork rind at the Peconics near Rose's Grove last Wednesday.

Captain Ron Onorato fishing the Heckscher area this past week with the ½ ounce white All Mighty Squid by Lupo Tackle, with rod in rod holder and drifting, took 25 weakfish.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station reports Thursday at buoy 4, 5 weakfish from 4 to 8 pounds were taken on Pink Shrimp tipped with squid by angler Pete Comissiong. Saturday saw Larry Oehler bag 10 weakfish on pink and amber Salty Dogs, up to 6 pounds on the Heckscher Flats. Late Saturday afternoon, red Enoksen bagged 15 weaks on amber shrimp jigs at the Heckscher flats with some fluke mixed in.

CAPTREE

The Capt. Ben Litwin reports that the fishing has been good all week long with most anglers getting seven or eight keepers a trip. The best area for the fluke has been between the Lighthouse and the Robert Moses Bridge. Sandels are the best bait, with killies a distant second. There are quite a few throwbacks in the catches now.

The Captain Richie also reported very good fluke fishing on both Saturday and Sunday by the Coast Guard Station and on both sides of the Robert Moses Bridge. It looks like a new batch of fish are now moving through the inlet, with the fish averaging 1 to 2½ pounds. The throwback ratio is about 60 keepers for every 40 shorts. The fish now seem to be hitting best on both sides of the change of tide. Sandeels are the best bait.

Captain George Mahr of the Anna M III told us that the weakfishing has only been fair in the evenings but the fluke are holding up very good around the Robert Moses Bridge, the Lighthouse and West Channel. It has been a steady pick all day with the fish hitting through both tides. Largest fish was an eight pound doormat taken under the R.M. Bridge on Friday. Best bait has been a squid and sandeel combination.

The Jib VI and V reports terrific fluking from the Moses Bridge to the inlet with an excellent percent of keepers. Their afternoon weakfish trips are also producing decent catches.

The Lady Ann reports excellent fluking on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday with 160 keeper fluke on Thursday. Saturday was half flounder

and half fluke, with 200 flounder and 100 fluke. Sunday was a little slower, with 5 to 10 fluke per man. Blowfish were taken to the tune of about 20 per day for the boat. Fluke hotspots are just west of the Moses Bridge on sandeels and squid. A bluefish of about 10 pounds was seen to be swung aboard the boat Captain Whitaker.

Jeff Schneider of the Babylon Tuna Club called to tell us that on May 9th, the first three blues of the season were taken by Babylon Tuna Club Members Sal Frega 8.3 pounds, Dennis Boefinger 10.2 pounds, and Jeff Schneider 11.13 pounds. This was all southwest of the inlet in 160 feet of water on Dennis's "Wopper Stopper", fishing whole mackerel and chumming. Sal, who got the first blue gets a big trophy from the club.

Dave Richardson cut the pink hairs off a half ounce pink and white Tri-Fin Jig 'n' Tail and took 2 weakfish, 7 and 8 pounds; along with 18 2 pound blues at dusk on Saturday off Democratic Point.

BABYLON

Augie's Bait and Tackle tells us that some bay blues have been taken on fluke rigs, 2 to 3 pounds and very scattered. Fluking is good. Tom Walsh and son took 12 in the State Channel drifting from Frank and Dick's to the drawbridge with sandeels and squid. Bob Autolino took a 10 pound 2 ounce and a 6 pound weak at Heckscher on a shrimp jig from his clam boat "Second Chance". Weakfishing is generally sporadic, with West Fire Island in the evening a good choice. Some blowfish at the Captree dock, 6 or 7 per man, with blackfish at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers.

Charlie's Fishing Station reports fantastic weakfishing. Jessie Brien, superintendent of the Bergen Point Golf Course had a 9 pound 1 ounce weak off Bergen Point on a home-made white lure. Others taken ran 6½ to 8¼ pounds with Fox Creek, East West Channel producing best. Flounder are described by Charlie as "All over the joint" on squid and sandeel on hi-low rigs, any tide. Catches have been very good all week on the weaks. Plenty of fluke in the 2½ pound class plus a lot of smaller fish in State and East West Channels.

ANNOUNCEMENT

FOUND: One Tackle Box found at Cedar Beach (North Shore) on Sunday, May 9th 1976, Mother's Day. Call (516) 981-0407 between 7:30 P.M. and 10:00 P.M. Identify and it's yours.

LINDENHURST

Captain Bob Fischer of the charterboat Lazy Day II has been having good fluke catches with about 1/3 short fish. Evening weakfish trips are productive though sometimes spotty. Bob says that he still has Memorial Day open for charters.

Charlie's Bait and Tackle reports blacks on the artificial reef, nice sizes, on fiddlers and green crabs, up to 6 pounds. One customer came in with 14 of these blacks. Best is slack water. Fluke at the

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inlet from the Coast Guard Station to the inlet, fish up to 4 pounds, on sandeels and squid, or live killies. Weakfishing has been spotty, with the best being at Heckscher Park. Joe Gialanzo took 41 weakfish at Heckscher's buoy 4 on Thursday on a 3/4 ounce Salty Hound, an odd ball lure. A few scattered blowfish. Good flounder action off the Lindenhurst Town Beach for boaters, fish 3/4 of a pound and up.

Captain Jay Porter of the **Bullet** tells us that they are still having problems fine tuning the scanner system on the new **Bullet**, so that it will pick up targets properly when the boat is moving over 20 mph. All May reservations have been cancelled and those holding tickets for those dates will be sailing in June. The boat should be at the anchorage in Lindenhurst soon, hopefully. Super thorough testing and shake down is going on off the Bahamas at present where all the electronics are being fine tuned on the wrecks and reefs in those waters to assure top results on the big offshore tile, cod and pollack wreck trips that the bullet will be making.

AMITYVILLE

Jonas Bait and Tackle tells us that Thursday, Friday and Saturday saw good weakfishing at Heckscher and east Fox Creek, also the garbage cove area in the State Channel. This was on shrimp jigs and also hi-lo rigs with squid and sand worms. Fluke in the state channel and from the Meadowbrook bridge to the inlet area. Blacks on fiddlers at the

Kismet Reef and at the Meadowbrook Bridge.

George Combs Bait and Tackle tells us that Massapequa anglers Kevin, Bill and Joe on the "Jo-Lyn" had 51 fluke up to 4 pounds at Yellow Bar on sandeels and killies. Kevin Kelly caught and released carp to 12 pounds at Margarie Post Lake in Massapequa. Squadron Anglers sharpies caught weaks at the Heckscher flats and Ranger Channel on red or white bucktails and amber shrimp. Best is shrimp chum and sand worms. Locally West Island is producing weakfish on shrimp chum as well as fluke and blows. The East West Channel had fair action with hi-lo rigs on red shrimp. Wantagh Bridge is very good for blacks with fiddler crabs. Flounder east of the third Wantagh through Zachs Bay.

SEAFORD

Salice Boat Basin tells us that plenty of flounder are all over with bloodworms and mussel chum working fine. Blowfish are mixed in with the flounder to some extent, roughly 1/2 dozen per boat. The Four Corners are and black banks should be tried. Weakfish have been taken on the east side of the 3rd Wantagh Bridge with hi-low rigs utilizing squid and sandworms. Some fluke at Four Corners through the State Channel on sand eels on all tides. Return the short fish please.

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle tells us that 30 weaks were taken at Heckscher on Saturday, late in the day on shrimp Twister, fish 5-6 1/2 pounds by anglers Ron Shimborski, Bill Crandell and Bob Sauer. One blue was also taken. Lonnie says that the Burke Wig-Wag Minnows are catching a lot of weakfish lately. Fluke areas presently are Squaw and West Island, Haunts Creek and West of the Wantagh Draw Bridge, 4 to 6 fish per man average. Still a lot of flounders around. A five pound black was weighed in by Lon, taken at the Meadowbrook Bridge. Rumors of bass in the Gilgo and Cedar portions of the State Channel. These were schoolies and were chummed.

MERRICK

Jimmy at Nick's Fishing Station informs us that Saturday saw good flounder activity on the last of the outgoing. The incoming saw good fluking, 9 to 22 keepers per boat, with Swift Creek producing probably the best

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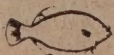
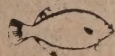
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West Side of Captree Dock

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of all spots in the area. Live killies produced the most fish. 19 fluke and 6 flounder were taken at the 2nd pole going towards the Merrick Hole for one of Jimmy's skiffs. Blowfish are being taken along with flounder in the State Channel and near the piers. Fluking is a lot better this time of the year than it was last year at this time, with many more fish being keepers.

Captain Frank Gill has asked us to announce that his boat, a 22 foot mako with 135 h.p. Evinrude has just been stolen and if anyone gets wind of this boat, or is approached with a very good price by someone offering this rig for sale, to determine who the seller is and to notify the police, or Frank or the Long Island Fisherman immediately.

Frank at Merrick Marine Supplies along with Buddies Joe G. and Fred V. on Tuesday had 30 weakfish up to 8½ pounds on the flats between Heckscher and Ocean Beach. White bucktails tipped with squid and salty dogs tipped with squid rang the bell. Good fluking in Swift Creek on sandeels and squid and live killies. Rumors (again) of bass in the state channel.

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The
FISHERMAN*



The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The person with the license plate # 621-YTV failed to call into L.I.F. a description of his/her car by the Friday deadline so this week there is no winner of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest. Next week's winner will receive \$20 instead of the usual \$10 plus a fishing trip for two aboard a boat of his choice.

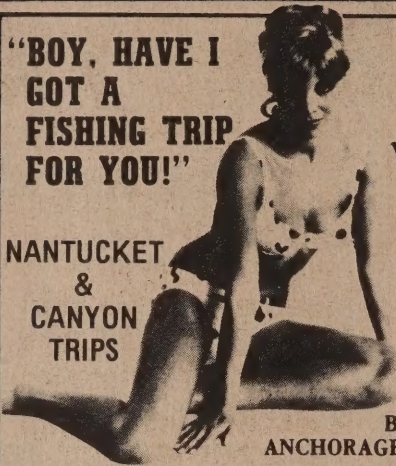
This Week's Winner:

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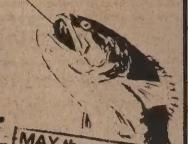
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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The **Miss Freeport** reports that flounder fishing was pretty good until Saturday when it went to fair. During the week 15 to 30 flounder were caught per man. On Sunday morning the flounder was tried again but it was a slow pick in Swift Creek. Capt. Andy then took the **Miss Freeport** to the Coast Guard Station and did well on the fluke while drifting towards the inlet. The fluke ranged from 13 to 18 inches and were taken on sandeels and squid.

Local wrecks, rocks and other secret spots known to Capt. Kessinger were fished by anglers on the **Starstream II**. These spots produced some good amounts of 1 pound sea bass. Some sea bass went to 3 pounds along with occasional black and big ling. These spots are only 40 minutes to just over an hour from the dock.

The **Captain Hall** said his mackerel trips turned into fluke trips by beginning on Thursday. There are lots of fish and throwbacks are only 1 in 3.

The **Captain Al** reports very good mackerel fishing up to Wednesday when they quit at noon with between 100 to 200 macks each man. Wednesday saw about 30 macks caught when they went to wrecks for sea bass and ling. Captain Al said the sea bass fishing is like old times with double headers as soon as the rigs hit bottom. Whiting and blacks have also been taken.

The **Aloma II** reports the fluke fishing was good on Saturday and fantastic on Sunday.

Catches of 70 and better of sea bass was reported by the **Aloma**. The fish are ¾ to 1 pound and seem to be just waiting to be caught. Ling is also in good quantities but the blacks seem to be winding down.

FREEPORT

Charterboat **Blue-Fin** reports flounder fishing on Saturday on local drops indicated quantity down but quality better, fish nice and thick. Pool winners are steadily 1½ pounds plus. On Sunday, the Wonder Bar Fishing Club of Ridgewood had flounder in the morning on the flood in Swift Creek. At the change, Captain Sy had them change over to fluke rigs and they bagged 40 keepers, drifting Swift Creek. Fluke were up to 3½ pounds with this jumbo taken by John Sullivan. Sand eels and flounder strips worked best. Fluking from West Reynolds Channel—Freeport Creek's is good. Captain Sy's new boat has just had the hull completed in Florida and June delivery is expected.

The **Captain Lou II** is still hanging in with the flounder which is providing very good catches up to 2½ pounds, best fishing being in the morning, before boat traffic puts the fish down. Swift Creek and the Coast Guard Station are working best with bloodworms and mussel baits and chum ringing the bell.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports fluking in Swift Creek and in the inlet to be a worthwhile endeavor as evidenced by Tony Gullo and his 15 keepers on Saturday on live killies and squid. Flounder is still very good, with fish up to 2½ pounds on bloodworms and mussel chum. Freeport Creek at Guy Lombardo's is producing. Blackfishing at the Meadowbrook Bridges and the Jones Beach Barge on fiddler crabs is doing nicely.

Hook Line and Sinkers Bait and Tackle reports good fluking in the inlet and off the Coast Guard Station, blacks at the bridges and flounder continuing, best in Swift Creek.

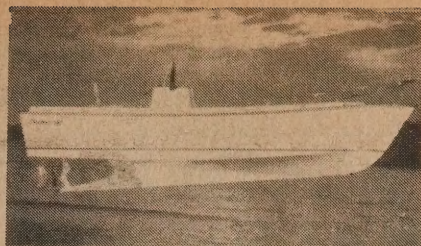
POINT LOOKOUT

The **Marie III** fished the inlet area for fluke on Saturday and did well with sand and squid combos. Keepers ran about 3 to 1. Sunday was to be a wreck fishing trip for the abundant sea bass but the weather was against it. The fishing was a slow pick with the same bait but should improve with the weather.

Ed's Fishing Station reports very good fluke fishing in Reynolds Channel. These spring run fluke are averaging 50 percent keepers and are hitting spearing and sandeels. Dave said the fluke hit best when the tide is not running too strong. Flounder are at buoys 16 and 18 hitting worms on all tides. The Meadowbrook Bridge and local wrecks still holds blackfish which hit fiddlers on green crabs.

A new tackle shop has recently opened in Point Lookout, and is the only spot in Pt. Lookout just devoted to being a tackle shop. This is **Jim's Tackle Haven**, and you run into it by swinging left after coming off the Pt. Lookout Bridge.

Scottie's Marina and Fishing Station reports the fluke fishing is great between the Pt. Lookout Bridge and Jones Inlet on sandeels and fluke belly. Blackfish are at the Meadowbrook Bridge, the Long Creek Bridge and offshore the T-wreck, and the Rotor Wreck. Weakfish are being taken in the nets off the beaches locally. Andy passes on the rumor of a few stripers being taken on sandworms off Atlantic and Rockaway Beaches. Getting back to the fluke, they are averaging 14 to 20 inches, and the best is one hour on each side of the high and also at low slack. The blackfishing is fantastic, says Andy. Flounders in Swift Creek and the entrance to the C.G. Station is still very strong. 53 flounder were brought in by one skiff, and Andy says now you can do it with or without chum, though chumming will get your fish box filled sooner. A few weeks have been taken in Reynolds Channel on flounder rigs.



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ISLAND PARK

Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** reports good fluke the length of Reynolds Channel from Jones Inlet to Debs Inlet. Strip baits and sandeels have been pulling in about 7 to 12 fish apiece for the anglers. Robert Frank of Island Park took 18 keepers on the strip baits.

Beckman's Tackle in Lynbrook reports the fluke are now moving deeper into the bays. Duck Point area and Reynolds Channel are still productive. Charlie says the keepers now approach 75 percent. Near Deb's Inlet and Reynolds Channel the flounder are still hitting on worms. The Silver Point jetty has excellent blackfishing. The blacks go to 6 and 7 pounds and are hitting mainly on crabs. No reports on surf fishing for striped bass.

Captain Bill of the **Ginnie Mae** continues to do good fluking, mainly in the Reynolds Channel area and other nearby area local spots.

Captain Don Eichin of the **Shearwater** had Jack Hoelzer, Perry Rosen and Vicky Heddad out on Monday and they took 300 mackerel 70 feet south of the inlet. Don plans to use these fish for shark, bait and chum.

JAMAICA BAY

John Cameron Sr. of the **Yellow Shed Bait Shop** said there are flounder and plenty of eels at the North and South Channel Bridges. The north and south RR trestles had striped bass that are hitting on shrimp chum and sand worm bait. There are a lot of shorts. More keepers have been had by jigging Hopkins or diamond jigs. Weakfish are in the deep water by the Marine Parkway Bridge. They are being taken on drifted sandworm. John said they should also be in the Silver Hole. Blacks are at all the bridges. Try worms for the new incoming fish. If the bergalls steal the worm switch to crab bait.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

On Saturday Capt. Nick Cannisi took the **Blue Sea II** to Deb's Inlet for fluke. He fished from buoy 4 towards the hospital. The bait was sandeels and spearing which brought in keeper fluke of 1½ to 2 pounds. Sunday saw excellent sea bass fishing near Sea Bright. A few pollack were taken as well as some blacks.

The **Eagle** has been having very good catches of sea bass and ling on both the morning and 4:30 P.M. trips.

Captain George said the **Helen H** at present is chasing up to Long Island Sound in order to catch mackerel. Fishing for mackerel there is quite good.

The **Capt. Dom** has been fishing for sea bass and blacks along the Rockaways and local wrecks. There are plenty of sea bass to 1½ pounds along with blacks that reach 6 pounds.

On Saturday the **Big Mohawk II** took out Local #1101 of the CWA to a couple of choice spots and Sea Bright. They averaged 15-35 mixed sea bass and blacks per man. Sunday saw Falco's Fishing Club of Brooklyn on board. The same places yielded poorer catches due to the poor weather.

Mike's Tackle reports a few flounder at the Silver Hole. Best news is the numerous blacks and sea bass at Sea Bright. Striped bass trollers at the jetty have caught a few small fish on bucktail.

Salvo's Bait and Tackle reports the flounder are picky from Coney Island to the Veranzano Bridge. The same area is producing fluke with a 30 to 40 percent keeper ratio. These are spring run fish which are hitting sandeels mostly. From 69th st. pier to Coney Island, striped bass fishermen are catching fish in sizes from shorts to 7 pounds by floating worms. A local doctor, Dr. Gary Sherman floated worms off Breezy Point and among the several striped bass he took was one that weighed 18 pounds. Joe

Salvo said there are big blue claw crab along the sea wall at Korvettes.

The **Pina III** reports angler Bill Esposito got his first schoolie bass in Sunday's fog at Sandy Hook, which should prove that the bassing is picking up. The striper season should be breaking very shortly.

The **Zephyr** reports very good sea bass, blackfish and ling fishing off the Jersey coast all week through Saturday. It was off a bit on Sunday due to the poor weather.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop reports that the spring run of striped bass has started and if you want some big fish to get out now. Inside Great Kills Harbor, Red Fins and Rebels are pulling in big striped bass. Jack Sherwood had two of 22 and 31½ pounds, while his buddy John Fatti not to be outdone took four bass from 16 to 16 pounds. All these fish were taken on Red Fins. The beach side of Great Kills Park has roaming schools of bass chasing bait and busting on top. Flounder seems to have had it. More and more fluke reports are coming in with a half dozen taken at Great Kills jetty.



Artie Chambers of Jamaica with a 3 lb. 15 oz. porgy caught at bouy 18 on a salty dog with squid. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

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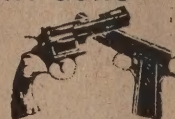
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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Eddie at **Orient by the Sea** said there was good flounder opposite Green Hills and around Gardiners Island. Teddy Teder, fishing on the **Stranger**, took 85 flounders at the Ruins. He used worms and mussels to get these 1½ to 3 lb. fish. Striped bass are being taken in Plum Gut using yellow bucktails with pork rind. For those who want to try for blacks, Eddie recommended the Plum Island light using green crabs as bait.

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop said the striped bass have broken loose in the Plum Gut. Drifting with yellow bucktails and pork rind with a 12 oz. sinker gets the big ones. Humpbacked porgies are being taken in quantity in the Peconics. Weakfishing was good all week but slowed on the weekend. God flounder fishing off Orient Point State Park, Ben's Point and Pettys Bight.

Capt. Richie Jensen of the **Wilhelric** said there is great porgy fishing in the Peconics. These are big 1 to 2½ lb. porgies.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports the weakfishing was so-so over the



Peter Kulacz caught this nice 8 lb. blackfish on a tapeworm in the Glen Cove area. Photo courtesy of the Glen Cove Sport Shop.

weekend. The action was best at buoys 17 and 18, 14 and 15 and Crab Creek. Use a hi-lo rig when anchored and a lure with squid when drifting. Porgy fishing was good at Middle Ground with a few going to 4 lbs. A few fluke, sea bass and blacks were also taken but the catches were small.

Pete Chesty and Ed Prybil drifted Tri-Fin Hairy Hooks, Yellow, with squid strip baits on Hi-Leader rigs and took 8 weakfish up to 8 pounds between Robins Island and Rose's Grove. The Hairy Hook rigs says Pete, outfished regular rigs put out.

NEW SUFFOLK

Sal at **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station** told us of four men, Joe Haggard, John Bogen, Artie Thames and E.R. Tribble, who had a combined catch of 305 porgies of 2-3¼ lbs., 26 weaks to 8 lbs. and a 7 lb. black. They fished Rose Grove on Saturday with worms and squid with skimmer for chum.

ROCKY POINT

Nick's Bait & Tackle said there are more striped bass being picked up on the bottom every day on sandworms. Blackfish action is hot and heavy using crabs or worms. Flounder are few but big and macks are hitting the beach once in a while.

JAMESPORT

Warren at **Warren's Bait and Tackle** tells us that weaks in Peconic Bay are coming on very strong around Robins Island, and it looks like a good period of weakfishing is upon us. Fish range 4 to 10 pounds. Angler John Bogdan came up with a possible new IGFA record of 14 pounds 12 ounces on 12 pound test caught on an M&M 7/16th oz. Big Mouth white bucktail. Porgies are better every day on bloodworms, sandworm or clam. Some reports of school strippers taken in the surf of Long Island Sound.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station says the blacks are pretty good. One day the bait is worms and clams and the next it is crabs. There was a catch of a bushel of porgies while black fishing.

Dick's Sporting Goods in Miller Place said a few weaks to 8 lbs. were taken on worms. Porgies are big but few and far between. Blacks are your best bet. Flounder seem to be waning. Mackerel are full of roe and finicky on lures. Try a single Diamond or Hopkins jig and when you get a mack put it on a mackerel tree and back into the water to attract the school. Striped bass are still spotty but taking worms.

PORT JEFFERSON

Bruce at the **Port Jeff Ace** said the blacks are fantastic. Twelve per man is the average and they are 5 lbs. or better.

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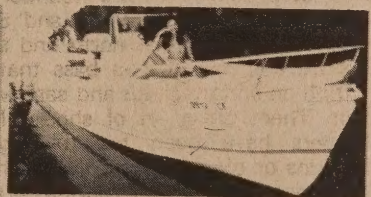
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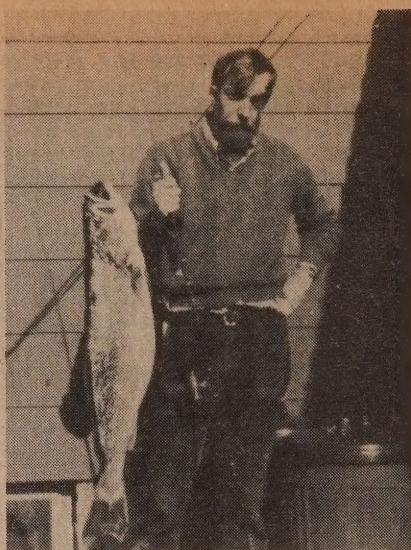
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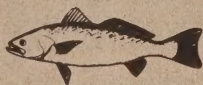
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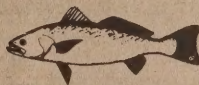


Jeremiah Hyde caught this 11 lb.
13½ oz. weakfish while fishing off
Ocean Beach. Subscriber Club
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Lots of sea bass with some to 3 lbs.
Porgies are starting but slow.

Carafis Fishing Station reports blacks are great from Miller Place to Sound Beach. There are 80% blacks with the balance consisting of sea bass, porgies and flounder. John recommends clams with mussel chum as the bergalls are minimal. Macks are holding well at Buoy 11.

Capt. John Fischer reports that both the **Betty W** and the **Janet C** are doing well on blackfish. There has been a sprinkling of weaks caught.

HUNTINGTON

Mackerel are all over the Sound, according to **Ronnie's Bait & Tackle**. Sand City has blacks to 9 lbs. hitting on fiddlers or worms. Big porgies have also been taken there. Worm trollers at Huntington Inlet and Cold Spring Harbor Causeway are doing really well. On Friday, Dennis Laduca took a 38 lb. striped bass from there. Weakas are mixed in with the bass.

Capt. Pete Novellino of the **Ever Ready** said everyone has been having a ball picking up Peconic Bay size porgies along with the big blacks. Blackfish are big, averaging 5 lbs. and up. Flounder and mackerel are a bonus. Most of this action took place inside of buoy '13 over the weekend.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Capt. Dick Williams of the **Therapy** had over 60 macks on Thursday at Lloyd Point. Sunday saw 25 blacks of 2-3 lbs. taken at the Cold Spring Lighthouse. These were taken on the outgoing tide using fiddlers.

PORT WASHINGTON

Good mackerel fishing in the Sound, according to **Moreland's Bait & Tackle**. Blackfish are taking most baits and the better spots are Stepping Stones, Mattinecock or Harts Island. Flounder are still around but no one seems to be trying. Dick Swerlein took a 19 lb. striped bass by worm drifting in Manhasset Bay. Tom Leis had an 8 lb. weak while going after striped bass.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle reports plenty of macks in the Sound from Harts Island east along both shores. Good blacks at Harts, CBS, using fiddlers or steamers. One half to one pound flounders are at Rodman Neck. They are taking sandworms. School bass are at Fort Slocum drifting worms or using a Rebel Split-Tail.

The **North Star** is sailing for mackerel and really cleaning up. They were in at 2:20.

The **Apache** with Capt. Carbone is bottom fishing for flounders and blacks and is picking up some porgies.



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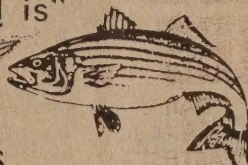
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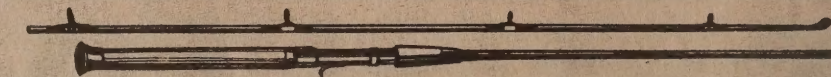
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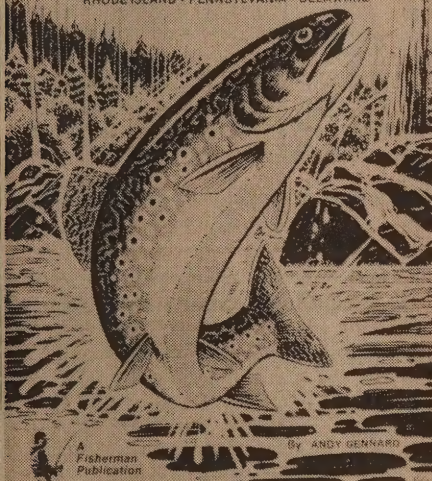
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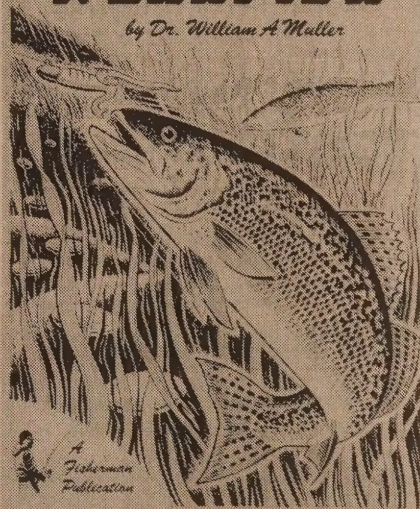
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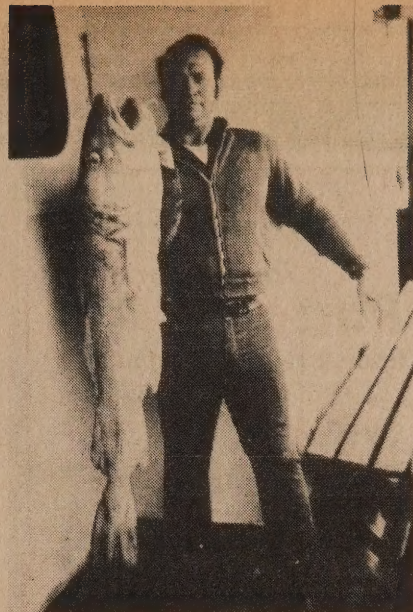
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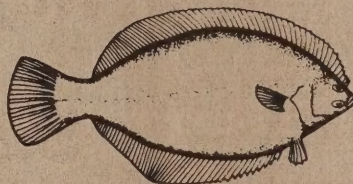
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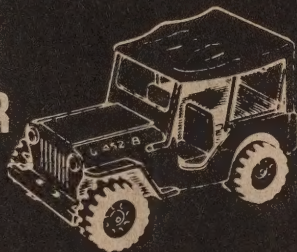
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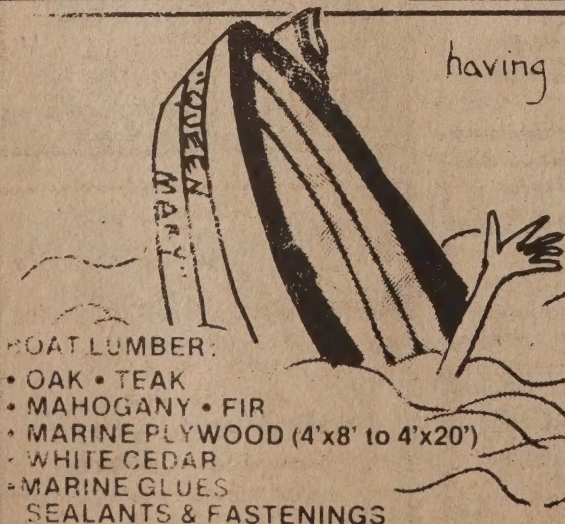
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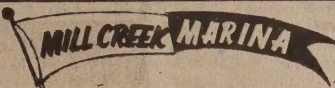
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CASTING GOURMET (Continued from page 8.)

Place the salmon steaks in a shallow foil lined baking pan; brush with a little salad oil. Broil about 12 to 15 minutes or until fish flakes easily. Thoroughly mix mayonnaise, apple sauce, lemon juice and rind, salt and egg yolk; fold-in stiffly beaten egg white. Cover each salmon steak with spoonfuls of the mixture, covering completely. Return to broiler for 2 or 3 minutes or until topping puffs and browns. Serve at once with hot sauce. (Makes 6 servings.)

Hot Sauce

1½ cups apple sauce

Juice of 1 lemon

1½ cup mayonnaise

1 tspn. salt

Dash of Cayenne

¼ cup fresh ground horseradish or
chopped pickle relish

Combine all ingredients. Heat gently, stirring several times. Serve hot with the fish. (Makes a generous 2 cups of sauce.)

WEAKFISHING

(Continued from page 13.)

and remove the hook while the fish is in the water. I make it a practice to gaff any fish I am going to keep, which may seem unnecessary at first glance. But I find it good practice for the large bluefish, bass and porgies that will come later in the season (hopefully). I'd rather go "oops" trying to gaff a weakfish than "sh#?!" trying to gaff another fish later on.

A few important do's and don't's for successful weakfishing: **Do** use a light drag so the weak can run without tearing a large hole in his mouth and have the hook fall out. **Don't** make a lot of noise by banging on the hull, shouting, playing the radio or Al Jolson records, which will have the effect of spooking the weakfish, particularly in shallow water. **Do** keep the catch on ice or in the water on a stringer to keep the soft flesh of the weak from deteriorating. **Don't** go fishing with Stu "Bad Winds" Miller, no matter what the weather predictions are, even if he offers to pay you to come along or to buy Carvel on the way home if you make it back to the dock alive. **Do** keep all the weakfish you catch, especially the roe-laden females, so we won't get bored catching so many fish in years to come.

TOURNAMENT PROVEN...

DYTEK SEAWATER TEMPERATURE SYSTEM

The Dytek Water Temperature Indicating System helped many of the tournament winning boat captains locate their top catch in last season's fishing competition. Make sure that your boat has that extra ingredient before you compete. Descriptive folder and free water temperature chart available from manufacturer — Dytek Laboratories, Inc., 1101 Wilbur Place, Bohemia, N.Y. 11716

This proven, trouble-free marine instrument...

\$229 at the following Marine Dealers: South Shore Marine, Bay Shore;

Maritime Communications, Freeport; Seatronics, Greenport;

Montauk Marine-Basin, Montauk Harbor;

Seaway Communications, Lindenhurst; Peconic Electronics, Hampton Bays



HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEW-PORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR	1:35	2:13	2:33	3:18	2:22	3:01	3:24	4:07	5:47	6:29	5:09	5:45	1:34	2:09	5/20
FRI	2:29	3:06	3:35	4:15	3:14	3:53	4:25	5:07	6:54	7:28	6:09	6:39	2:29	3:05	5/21
SAT	3:23	4:01	4:31	5:09	4:09	4:48	5:26	6:02	7:54	8:24	7:05	7:32	3:25	3:57	5/22
SUN	4:19	4:54	5:26	5:59	5:04	5:39	6:21	6:48	8:47	9:10	8:00	8:23	4:20	4:47	5/23
MON	5:14	5:43	6:15	6:41	5:57	6:29	7:09	7:30	9:37	9:55	8:52	9:10	5:08	5:34	5/24
TUE	6:05	6:28	7:00	7:23	6:47	7:11	7:52	8:07	10:24	10:36	9:39	9:55	5:55	6:19	5/25
WED	6:51	7:09	7:41	8:00	7:33	7:53	8:31	8:42	11:04	11:09	10:23	10:35	6:40	7:01	5/26
THUR	7:33	7:48	8:21	8:37	8:15	8:29	9:09	9:17	11:38	11:28	11:05	11:16	7:22	7:41	5/27

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....-0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 1/2 hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	- 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	- 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	- 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	- 0 12
Seaside Park	- 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	- 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	- 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	- 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNSEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	- 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	- 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	- 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	- 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	- 0 38
Democrat Point	- 0 38
Coast Guard Station	- 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	- 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	- 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	- 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	- 0 08
Herod Point	- 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	- 0 20
Truman Beach	- 0 42
Falkner Island	- 0 13
Sachem Head	- 0 10
Branford Harbor	- 0 07
New Haven Harbor	- 0 08
Milford Harbor	- 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	- 0 03
Saugatuck River	- 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	- 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	- 0 14
Montauk Inlet	- 0 25
Montauk Point	- 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	- 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	- 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	- 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higginnum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	- 0 10
Execution Light	- 0 06
Manhasset Bay	- 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	- 0 11
City Island	- 0 03
Rye Beach	- 0 28
Port Chester	- 0 09
Mamaroneck	- 0 08
New Rochelle	- 0 24
David's Island	- 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	- 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	- 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	- 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	- 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	- 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	- 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	- 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

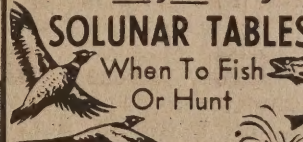
SUNRISE/SUNSET

5/10	5:45	8:09
5/15	5:39	8:14
5/20	5:34	8:19
5/25	5:31	8:23
5/30	5:28	8:28

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
 5/29	 5/7	 5/13	 5/20

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt



The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
5/20	11:25	5:40	11:50	6:00
5/21		6:20	12:15	6:40
5/22	12:30	7:00	12:55	7:20
5/23	1:10	7:40	1:35	8:00
5/24	1:50	8:15	2:15	8:40
5/25	2:25	9:00	2:55	9:15
5/26	3:10	9:40	3:30	10:00
5/27	3:45	10:20	4:15	10:45

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Sears U.S. Coast Guard Approved Sears Life Jacket



**EXCEPTIONAL
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Only
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- United States Coast Guard approved Type III personal flotation device
- Fashionable "Bandana Blue" nylon shell
- Buckle closure on polypropylene web strap
- Adjustable side straps for comfortable fit

Adult Sizes
(over 90 lbs.)

Vest size	M	L
Men's chest size (in inches)	38-42	44-48
Misses' dress size	14-18	20

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Livingston, N.J.
Middletown, N.J.
Nanuet, N.Y.
Newark, N.J.
Riverhead, L.I.

Smith Haven, L.I.
Somerville, N.J.
Stamford, Conn.
Staten Island, N.Y.
Rockville Ctr., L.I.

Union City, N.J.
Watchung, N.J.
Willowbrook, N.J.
White Plains, N.Y.